



Learning
Network

Eastern Shore &
Musquodoboit Valley

ANNUAL REPORT

September 1st, 2024 -
June 30th, 2025



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www.esmvlearning.ca



902.391.0014





ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

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MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

The Eastern Shore Musquodoboit Valley Learning Network remains committed to its mission of transforming lives through education. Over the coming year, we will continue to advance this vision by expanding access to essential learning resources, strengthening strategic partnerships, and delivering programs that meet learners where they are.

Our focus is on bridging educational gaps, fostering innovation, and empowering adults with the skills and confidence they need to thrive in a rapidly changing world. With the dedication of our team and the unwavering support of our community, we will create opportunities that inspire lifelong learning and drive meaningful impact across the region.

Together, we are building a stronger, more resilient future, one learner at a time. Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to this important work.



BRANDIE HALEY
BRANDIE@ESMVLEARNING.CA

Highlights of 2024-2025

- ★ During our 2024-2025 NSSAL reporting period, we supported 236 adult learners on their educational journey:
 - 28** in our CAEC Prep Program
 - 69** in Tech Connect
 - 81** in E3 Foundations - Basic Digital Skills
 - 58** in Chrome, Books & Bytes
- ★ 15 Community events supported as part of Events Plus, pg's 9, 10, 11
- ★ 31 GEO Referrals resulting in the distribution of 28 Chromebooks, 1 cell phone, and 2 home internet connections to people in our communities
- ★ Changing of our fiscal year to match NSSAL funding
- ★ Introduction of Books, Bites, & Beyond pg 13
- ★ Introduction of Community Table, pg 14
- ★ Irma retires and Trisha joins the team, pg 6
- ★ So much more! For details, read the report 🥰



Our Vision To Empower Lifelong Learning

Our Mission To enrich our rural communities, families and individuals by providing educational opportunities and engagement

Our Services

We are dedicated to fostering lifelong learning and literacy by offering diverse adult education programs from foundational learning of essential skills, to CAEC (GED) preparation and beyond. Through strategic grants, we provide workshops and programs that address essential skills for employability, digital literacy, financial and food literacy, mental health, and a deepened appreciation for culture, arts, and literature. Our community partnerships allow us to expand our reach, hosting events, programs, and book giveaways that invite families to learn and grow together in engaging and meaningful ways.

Our Values

Integrity -
Transparency,
respect, privacy,
ethical practice

Passion -
Fun, joy,
respect,
community
involvement

Culture -
Empathy, safe
environment,
respect, rural,
inclusion

Innovation -
Technique,
technology,
respect

Our Inspiration

We are here because we believe in the power of learning to make lives better. Whether it is helping someone learn a new skill, connect with others, or gain confidence, we want to meet people where they are at and help them to move forward.

We listen to what our communities need by talking to participants, gathering feedback, and staying aware of what's happening around us. If we see a gap, something that could make a real difference, we work hard to find the funding and resources to fill it. Our goal is to create programs that are meaningful, useful, and accessible to everyone. At the heart of it all, it's about supporting each other and growing together.

Areas Served and Contact Information:

We serve the beautiful Eastern Shore (inclusive of Porters Lake to Ecum Secum) and the Musquodoboit Valley (inclusive of Dean to Dutch Settlement).

Offices are located in:




- 22756 Highway 7, Sheet Harbour (Main Office)
- 12280 Highway 224, Middle Musquodoboit
- 325 Porters Lake Station Road, Porter's Lake

Main contact information:

- 902-391-0014
- admin@esmvlearning.ca
- Website: esmvlearning.ca
- Facebook and Instagram: @esmvlearning

Our Sheet Harbour and Musquodoboit Valley locations benefit from partnerships with third-party organizations that help share rental costs, while our Porters Lake and outreach communities operate from the MusGo Rider building in Porters Lake, who offer us a cost-effective and accessible base.

These valued partnerships reflect ESMVLN's commitment to managing resources responsibly and nurturing positive community relationships. We extend our sincere thanks to the following community partners:

-  MusGo Rider Rural Transportation Association
Porters Lake office/classroom space
-  Eastern Shore Musquodoboit Community
Health Board - Musquodoboit Valley
office/classroom space
-  Nova Scotia Department of Justice
Sheet Harbour office/classroom space



Sheet Harbour Office



Middle Musquodoboit Office



Porters Lake Office

We'd love to hear from you! Pop by or contact us with your questions, ideas, or feedback – we're always excited to connect and collaborate.

Our Funding



The Learning Network operates under the guidance of a dedicated Governance Board of Directors and a committed team of employees and volunteers. Our primary funding comes from the Nova Scotia School for Adult Learning, administered by the Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration, with oversight from the Adult Education Division. Corey Moore, the Adult Education Coordinator for the Northern Region, supports the Network's efforts.

In addition to its core funding, The Learning Network has received valuable support from:



FLIEF - Family Learning Initiative Endowment Fund

Federal Government - New Horizons for Seniors Grant



Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage - Community Food Access and Literacy Fund

Literacy Nova Scotia - NSSAL Community Grant, NSSAL PD Fund

Our Memberships



ESMV Learning Network is a member of the Association of Nova Scotia Community Learning Organizations (ANSCLO), whose mission statement is to support community-based learning and to advocate for community learning organizations and the learners they represent.



The Tri-Community Coalition, funded by the Canadian Mental Health Association, hosts biannual roundtable meetings where local nonprofits and organizations share updates on programs and events. As members, we value this opportunity to connect, learn, and collaborate with others serving the tri-communities.



ESMV Learning Network is a member of Literacy Nova Scotia (LNS), and supports their vision statement that *All Nova Scotians achieve their learning goals and fulfill their potential.*



Sheet Harbour Chamber of Commerce & Civic Affairs



Musquodoboit Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce & Civic Affairs

ESMV Learning Network Team, 2024 - 2025

Julie Streight – Executive Director

Lynn Cameron – Administrative Support

Vicki Rutledge – Bookkeeper

Tobbi Dyer – E3 and Digital Skills Instructor

Jeff Froese-Stoddard – CAEC and E3 and Digital Skills Instructor

Shirley Spears – E3 and Digital Skills Instructor

Wendy Hanlan – E3 and Digital Skills Instructor, New Horizons Program Coordinator

Trisha Murphy – CAEC Program Instructor

Artena Webb – FLIEF Program Coordinator

Natalie Dugie - Community Food Access and Literacy Program Coordinator



The ESMVLN team brings knowledge, compassion, and creativity to their work every day. From guiding learners in the classroom to keeping programs organized behind the scenes, they create welcoming spaces where learning and community grow together.

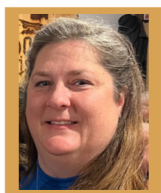
Volunteer Tutors

Our volunteer tutors play an important role in extending our reach. By sharing their time, energy, and experience, they help us support learners in areas where dedicated funding isn't available. This year, we were fortunate to have two wonderful tutors who provided one-on-one guidance and encouragement, helping learners build skills and confidence. Their commitment makes a real difference, and we're grateful for the care they bring to our classrooms and community.

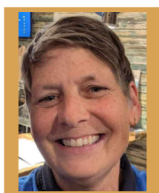
Anne O'Grady – Private Tutor and Classroom Support for beginner digital skills. Anne's steady guidance and encouragement help new learners gain confidence and build essential skills.

Sandra Ells – Math Tutor. Sandra provided one-on-one tutoring to support a learner in strengthening their math skills.

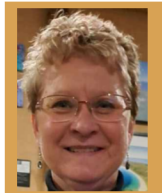
ESMV Learning Network Board of Directors 2024 - 2025



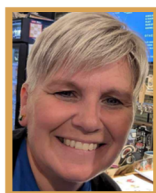
**Brandie
Haley**
Board Chair



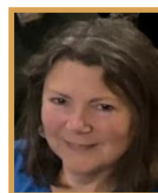
Susan Burt
Treasurer &
Secretary



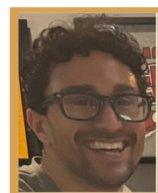
**Ena
Spears**
Director



**Karen
Cummings**
Director



**Colette
Lambert**
Director

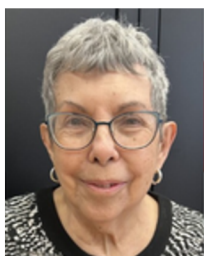


**Aristotle
Eliopoulos**
Director

Our Board of Directors provides steady guidance and oversight, helping ensure the organization remains accountable, compliant, and focused on its mission. Their collective experience supports sound decision-making and long-term planning.

This year, the Board also took an active role in community fundraising, raising \$3,333 to support ESMVLN programs, operations, and learners. Events included Grand in the Hand, Book-a-Thon, and Paint & Sip, along with a fun partnership with Sober Island Brewing, who welcomed us to sell 50/50 tickets during their Thursday night trivia events.

Many local businesses generously donated merchandise and gift cards for prizes, helping make these efforts a success. Thank you to everyone who contributed; your support helps us continue offering free, accessible learning opportunities across our communities.



IRMA SNYDER

A legend retires

After over two decades of dedicated service as a high school equivalency instructor with our Network, Irma Snyder has retired, leaving an incredible legacy of education and empowerment.

Irma's journey in education began in a one-room schoolhouse, where she attended until grade 9 before graduating from Sheet Harbour High School and studying at Normal College in Truro. While teaching school, Irma pursued her studies part-time at St. Francis Xavier University, earning both a BA in English and a BEd. She spent nearly 40 years teaching high school English before transitioning to teach GED, where she became a cornerstone of our Network.

Over the years, Irma has guided and supported countless students, helping them overcome barriers, build confidence, and achieve their goals. In 2023, she was honored with the United Way's "Invisible Champion" award, recognizing her patient, kind, and understanding approach to teaching. Irma created a welcoming environment where every student felt valued, included, and capable of succeeding at their own pace.

Thank you, Irma, for inspiring so many and for your extraordinary contributions to our community. You will always be part of our Network family!

NSSAL Funded Programs

The Nova Scotia School for Adult Learning (NSSAL) programs are tailored to adults. We understand that learning needs to suit your busy life and current commitments. That's why our offerings are flexible, focused and taught by instructors that understand the other demands in your daily life.

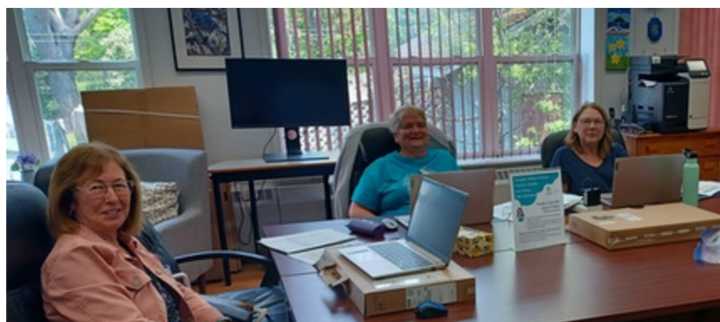
E3 Foundations, Basic Digital Skills: The program consists of five progressive modules that focus on providing learners with the confidence and skills they need to use digital tools for employment, education, and communications. Modules include: Digital Hardware, Digital Software, Digital Connection, Digital Communication, and Digital Creation and Resilience.



Skills Loading...



Tech Connect is a digital skills program focused on building proficiency with essential workplace apps. Whether you're new to tools like Google Workspace, Canva, Zoom, or Office 365, or looking to improve your existing skills, we offer beginner to intermediate level courses that can help you feel more confident and capable in a modern work environment. This program aims to improve knowledge and skills that support job opportunities, career growth, and higher education goals.



NSSAL Funded Programs

Chrome, Books and Bytes is a 12-week program blending a book club, digital literacy, cooking, and cultural exploration. Participants build reading, writing, and public speaking skills while using tools like Google Maps and Google Earth to virtually explore the regions featured in their books. The program concludes with a cultural cooking activity, teaching essential skills like meal planning, budgeting, and food safety. CBB fosters a love of learning, cultural understanding, and inclusivity through engaging activities and discussions.



CAEC (Canadian Adult Education Credential) Prep – Our program focuses on Reading, Writing, Math, Science, and Social Studies. We offer both classroom-based and online learning environments. The curriculum is designed to prepare learners for the Canadian Adult Education Credential (CAEC) exam, which consists of five tests. To earn their CAEC certification, learners must pass all five tests.



This year, we introduced the new Canadian Adult Education Credential (CAEC) program, which replaced the former GED as Canada's high school equivalency standard. As the program was new to everyone across the country, we experienced a few growing pains along the way. Still, our learners and instructors adapted quickly, showing patience, persistence, and teamwork as they adjusted to new materials and testing processes.

Events Plus

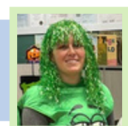
Events Plus is a Community Literacy Program funded by NSSAL and designed to support and inspire parents and caregivers to recognize the importance of literacy, and nurture a love of learning in their children. Through engaging, interactive, and educational events, the program promotes lifelong learning while bringing families together in a fun and meaningful way.



Sheet Harbour

- **Halloween Howl** – October 24: 274 participants (140 children, 119 adults). In partnership with Parks and Recreation and Sheet Harbour Public Library
- **Puzzle Swap** – Nov 2024 - April 2025: 232 families. In partnership with Sheet Harbour Public Library
- **Christmas on Main Street** – Dec 01: 385 participants (100 children, 285 adults)
- **Harbourview Nursing Home Puppet Show** – Dec 12: 65 participants (27 children, 38 adults). In partnership with Sheet Harbour Public Library, Harbourview Lodge, and Parks and Recreation
- **Family Literacy Day** – Feb 01: 27 participants (17 Children, 10 adults). In partnership with Sheet Harbour Public Library, Parks and Recreation and LEA Place.
- **Harbourview Lodge Easter Celebration** – April 10: 100 participants (43 children, 57 adults). In partnership with Sheet Harbour Public Library, Parks and Recreation, and Harbourview Lodge

Thank you to volunteer Courtney Cameron who assisted with these events



Events Plus Continued

Musquodoboit Harbour

- **Parade of Lights in Musquodoboit Harbour** – Dec 7: 770 participants. In partnership with Musquodoboit Harbour Public Library and Parks and Recreation.
- **Family Literacy Day Musquodoboit Harbour** – Jan 25: 95 participants (60 children, 35 adults) In partnership with Musquodoboit Harbour Public Library, Parks and Recreation, Eastern Shore Family Resource Association, and The Deanery Project.
- **Coffee & Books** - A monthly meet up with fellow book lovers to discuss favourite books, authors, and what to read next! In partnership with the Musquodoboit Harbour Public Library and Steeple Green Books.



Musquodoboit Valley

- **Family Pumpkin Fun** – Oct 26: 43 participants (23 children, 20 Adults) In partnership with Musquodoboit Valley Family Resource Centre.
- **28th Annual Family Christmas Craft Celebration** – Nov 30: 60 participants (33 children, 30 Adults) In partnership with Musquodoboit Valley Family Resource Centre and Halifax Public Libraries
- **Easter Egg Hunt** – April 12: 40 participants (25 children, 15 adults) In partnership with Musquodoboit Valley Family Resource Centre
- **Family Fun Day Musquodoboit Valley Education Centre** – May 31: 143 participants (83 children, 60 adults) In partnership with Musquodoboit Valley Family Resource Centre, Parks and Recreation and Halifax Public Libraries

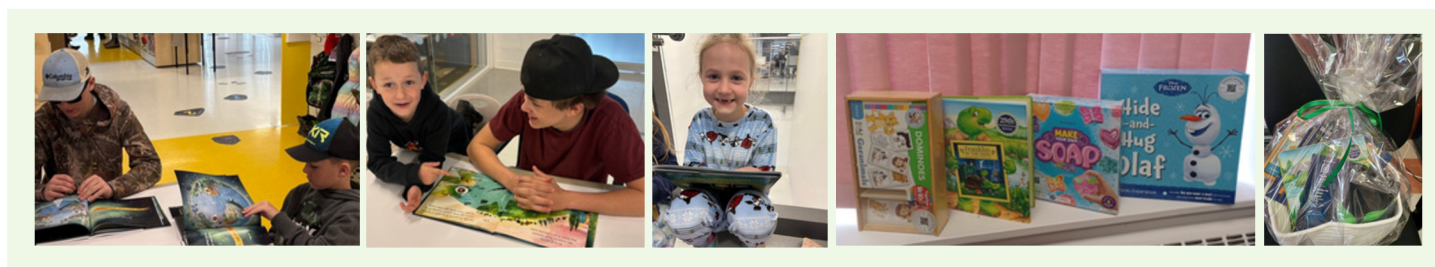


Ninety-four percent of children agree that their favourite books are the ones they picked out themselves, and almost all children (92%) agree that they are more likely to finish a book they picked out.

Kids & family Reading Report Canadian Editions

Events and Programs we supported :

- Canada Day Celebration In Sheet Harbour - Provided a game activity for children to play during the event, and prizes for participants at the event.
- Earth Day at Marine Drive Academy - 64 green-themed books were purchased and distributed to students in grades Primary through 2 as part of the Earth Day initiative.
- Student Bursaries - Three, \$200 bursaries were awarded to local high schools to support students pursuing post-secondary education.



Coffee and Books is a monthly program hosted by the Musquodoboit Harbour Public Library that brings readers together to share conversation, community, and a love of books. ESMVLN is proud to partner in support of this initiative by purchasing one book each month from Steeple Green Books in Musquodoboit Harbour to be given as a prize. Each selected book reflects the month's discussion theme, adding a fun and engaging element to every gathering.

Feedback from participants in the program

"It was very thorough. Showed me the difference between memoirs and autobiography."	"Really enjoyed the discussion from great intelligent women."	"Great input from all participants, good overview of genre, good discussion, good to talk about books in general."
"Loved it. Really enjoyed learning more about historical fiction. Presented in an easy to understand way."	"Wonderful and engaging! Lots of preparation so thanks!"	"As always inclusive. Lots of interesting conversations."
"Comradery, sharing, perspective, joy, laughter, fun! Tobbi is great!"	"Great- made me think about memoirs and autobiographies."	"Very interesting & informative. Well organized. Thank you!"

Family Learning Initiative Endowment Fund (FLIEF) *“Play to Learn/Learn to Play”*

FLIEF provides a grant opportunity for organizations to apply for funding to support family literacy projects for children ages 0 to 6. Families are where values, attitudes, and patterns related to literacy and learning are first established, making parents and caregivers their child’s first and most important teachers. Family literacy is a long-term investment in our society and our future. We were successful in receiving a grant of \$13,513.00 for the Jolly Phonics (29 sessions) and Makers Space-STEM (8 sessions) programs.



This program provides parents and caregivers, along with their children, the tools and support to foster a love of learning. This program builds school readiness skills by helping children recognize letters, sounds, and word associations. It promotes the development of language, social, and motor skills through engaging songs, crafts, and activities. We completed this program in partnership with the Sheet Harbour Public Library and Parks and Recreation.



Our STEM Explorers Program is designed for children aged 4 - 6 and their caregivers to learn and grow together. Each class offers hands-on activities centered around one of the four STEM themes: science, technology, engineering, or math. Through fun, interactive experiences, young learners and their caregivers build curiosity, creativity, and foundational skills in a supportive and engaging environment.



Thank you to volunteer Russell Webb who assisted with this program



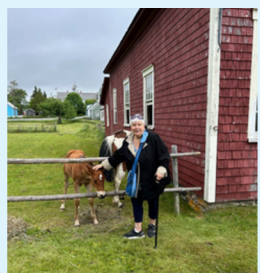
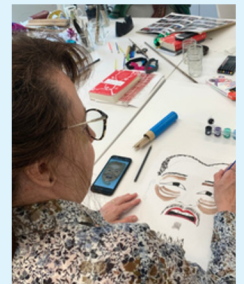
New Horizons For Seniors Program

“Books, Bites & Beyond”



We received a grant of \$20,165 to support the *Books, Bites & Beyond* project, scheduled to run from March 31, 2025, to March 30, 2026. The program is designed to reduce social isolation among older adults by combining reading, conversation, and shared experiences around food and culture. Each 10-week session invites participants to explore a different part of the world through literature, discussion, and hands-on cultural activities.

The grant also helps support elements of our Chrome, Books & Bytes program that aren't covered by provincial funding, allowing us to expand cultural activities, provide additional materials, and make sessions even more engaging and accessible for participants.



Community Food Access and Literacy Fund



“Community Table: Cooking to Promote Food Literacy & Security”

We received a grant of \$4,900 from the Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage for the Community Food Literacy and Access Fund. Our program, Community Table, was a hands-on cooking and food literacy program designed to bring people together through the shared experience of preparing and enjoying healthy, affordable meals. Led by Chef Natalie Dugie, the six-week series focused on plant-based cooking, showing participants how to prepare nutritious meals using vegetarian proteins which are a cost-effective option to meat.

Each session combined practical learning with shared experience. Participants prepared their own plant-based meals to take home, while Chef Natalie Dugie prepared a communal dish for everyone to enjoy together. Around the table, the group discussed their cooking experiences, food preferences, and ideas for incorporating more vegetarian proteins into everyday meals.



NSSAL Community Grant

During this reporting period, we received \$2,825 through the NSSAL Community Grant, which is funded by the Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration, and distributed by Literacy Nova Scotia in support of the NSSAL system. These funds were used to assist with learner travel by providing rides through MusGo Rider and gas cards in all three communities. The funds were also used to support classroom nutrition. These supports help reduce barriers to participation and ensure learners can attend classes comfortably and consistently across our network.



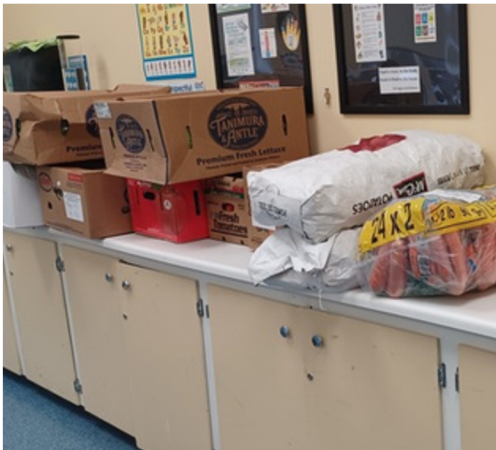
NSSAL PD Fund

The NSSAL PD Fund is funded by the Adult Education Division of the Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration. This fund is managed by the Professional Development Committee which is co-chaired by Literacy Nova Scotia. The NSSAL PD Fund is intended to support applications that strengthen and benefit the NSSAL service delivery system. Funding in the amount of \$3,891.68 was granted to ESMVLN to support a professional development workshop for Executive Directors and members of ANSCLO. The session provided targeted training in legal liability and nonprofit marketing.

Good Food Bags

The Good Food Bags program helps improve access to fresh, high-quality produce at a reduced rate. Through a partnership with the Mobile Food Market, ESMVLN purchases bulk quantities of vegetables at affordable prices. MusGo Rider generously delivers the orders at no charge, and with the help of the Sheet Harbour Public Library, the bags are assembled and stored for pickup. Each bag costs \$10 and provides participants with a higher value of produce thanks to bulk ordering and free delivery. The program supports up to 40 participants each month. To encourage learning in everyday life, ESMVLN also includes a recipe card featuring ingredients from that month's bag, inspiring participants to try new foods and explore healthy cooking at home.

In partnership with:   Halifax Public Libraries



A special thank-you to the East Coast Credit Union for generously covering the cost of every participant's bag for one month, ensuring that all families could enjoy healthy, fresh produce at no cost.

Partnership with GEO Nova Scotia

Last year, we were thrilled to announce a new partnership with GEO (Getting Everyone Online) Nova Scotia, a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring digital equity across the province by providing access to technology, affordable internet, and digital skills training. This collaboration marked an exciting milestone for our organization and the communities we serve.

We are proud to report that we completed 31 GEO intake forms, allowing us to provide 28 Chromebooks, 1 cell phone, and 2 home internet connections to learners across the Eastern Shore and Musquodoboit Valley. Through this partnership, we not only help participants gain access to essential technology but also offer the digital skills training they need to use these tools effectively for work, learning, and everyday life.

Importantly, our team remains the ongoing point of contact for anyone who receives a device through this program. Learners can reach out at any time for assistance, troubleshooting, or refresher training as their comfort and confidence with technology continue to grow.



Outreach and Promotions

We continue to use a variety of outreach methods to ensure our programs and events are visible and accessible across all the communities we serve. Our goal is to reach both new and returning learners through multiple channels:

Website: Our website, www.esmvlearning.ca, remains a central hub for program details, registration information, and updates. We continue to work with McLaughlin Web Development for technical support and updates to both our website and YouTube channel.

Community Listings: Our event calendar and classes are also shared on EasternShoreNS.ca to reach a broader local audience.

Social Media: We maintain an active presence on Facebook and Instagram, sharing posts about programs, community events, contests, and special initiatives to build awareness and engagement.



Advertisements: NSSAL-funded programs are promoted through the Eastern Shore Cooperator and local community poster boards to increase visibility.

Radio: Local station 94.7 Sheet Harbour Radio continues to highlight our programs on air, helping us reach residents who may not be active online.

Community Engagement: We attend community meetings and events to distribute promotional materials and talk directly with residents about available programs.

Memberships and Partnerships: As members of Literacy Nova Scotia, the Association for Nova Scotia Community Learning Organizations (ANSCLLO), The Tri Coalition, and the Sheet Harbour Chamber of Commerce, we collaborate with partners to share information, expand promotional opportunities, and stay connected to community needs.

We remain committed to making learning opportunities easy to find and accessible to everyone. Through consistent outreach, strong partnerships, and an active community presence, we continue to promote the belief that learning happens everywhere across the Eastern Shore and Musquodoboit Valley.



Professional Development



The ESMVLN team continues to invest time and energy into building their skills to better support learners and strengthen our programs. This year, staff took part in a variety of training opportunities. Below are some of the professional development activities our team completed this year:

NSSAL Camera Assessment Training: Communications and Math Employment Readiness Assessment. This is a tool used to place program participants in the correct level of learning and program stream, and helps folks to function at a level that enables them to succeed.

Northstar Training: Mandatory digital assessment and curriculum resource tool. This program is one which all ESMV Literacy staff are required to complete.

E3 Training - Education, Essential Skills, Empowerment: The comprehensive training given to CLO staff aims to aid in creating and shaping new curricula that align with the E3 program's objectives. The E3 program, linked to the federal government's essential skills framework, is designed to broaden individuals' chances of achieving success in various aspects of life.

Professional Development Conference for Literacy Practitioners - “Expanding Connections Across Communities” November 14 – 15. This two-day conference offered a wide range of learning opportunities for every position on our team.

LNS Practitioner Training: The training objective is to increase practitioner knowledge and skills and is designed to support adult learning principles, and increase awareness of the uniqueness of the adult learning experience. ESMV Literacy asks that all staff participate in this training and achieve their certification. The course takes between 6 months and 2 years to complete.

Chamber of Commerce Courses: QuickBooks Level II and Communication Skills for Leaders

ED Academy presented by The United Way: A year-long training program that aims to build on the skills and experience of executive directors. It provides them with the tools needed to support their success and create capacity within their organizations.

Staff Professional Days - Jan 28 and May 21:

We had two successful Professional Days the team had the opportunity to share and learn as a team at the Sheet Harbour Office. As a team we explored the new NSSAL Curriculum as well as the New NSSAL Info Cache website and the LNS Resource Hub.

Simon Sez IT- Is a learning platform that allow the staff easy access to resources to develop their skillsets. Some of the courses taken this year were QuickBooks, Artificial Intelligence, CANVA, Google Calendar, and more.

Mental Health First Aid - two day course in April 25 and 26, completed by two team members.

ANSCLO Conference - two day PD conference for ED's and Board Members of Community Learning Organizations in Nova Scotia. This year focused on diversifying funding and non profit marketing.

Partners and Supporters

We are deeply grateful to the many organizations, businesses, and individuals who supported our work throughout the year. Your generosity and collaboration make it possible for us to offer meaningful programs, remove barriers to participation, and continue promoting lifelong learning

Community Links
D.S. Crowell Funeral Home
David Hendsbee
Eastern Shore Cooperator
Eastern Shore Family Resource Association
Eastern Shore Memorial Hospital
Eastern Shore Musquodoboit Community Health Board
EasternShoreNS.ca
Fairwinds
Foodland Sheet Harbour
Gammons Home Hardware
Gerald Hardy Memorial Society
HRM Parks and Recreation
Jack Marshall
Kent Smith
Lawton's Drug Store
LEA Place Women's Resource Centre
MacPhee House Heritage Society
Marine Drive Academy
Marmalade Café & Coffee Bar
Mika's Esso

MusGo Rider Rural Transportation Association
Musqui Cafe
Musquodoboit Harbour Public Library
Musquodoboit Rural High School
Musquodoboit Valley Education Centre
Musquodoboit Valley Family Resource Centre
Musquodoboit Valley Library Office
NSLC – Sheet Harbour
Office of the Nova Scotia Department of Justice
Royal Canadian Legion
Schools Plus
Sheet Harbour Discount & Gift Store
Sheet Harbour Foodland
Sheet Harbour Lions Club
Sheet Harbour Public Library
Sober Island Brewing Company Youth Employment and Skills Strategy (YESS)
The Old School Community Gathering Place
Tri Coalition
Well Being Hub
YMCA Nova Scotia Works

This year, we extend a special thank-you to the Well Being Hub, who donated \$500 to support unfunded aspects of our Chrome, Books & Bytes program, and to Community Links, who contributed \$150 toward supplies and refreshments for programs supporting seniors.



Closing notes from the Executive Director

This was a great year. Having already completed my first full year in the role, I had a much better sense of what to expect, which made it easier to plan ahead, and stay organized. With our new name officially in place and our strategic plan guiding the work, we focused on keeping programs running smoothly, supporting learners through change, and continuing to build strong relationships in each of our communities.

Our instructors and learners tackled the first full year of the CAEC program, and while there were a few bumps along the way (it was new for everyone across Canada), they handled it with patience and a great sense of humour.

We also launched new initiatives like Books, Bites & Beyond and Community Table, and continued our valued partnerships with GEO Nova Scotia, and other community organizations both in our area and across the province.

This year also brought a small administrative change as we adjusted our fiscal year to align with our core funder's reporting schedule. It's not the most exciting update, but it will make reporting easier and keep our timelines more consistent going forward.

I'm grateful every day for our instructors, staff, volunteers, and Board of Directors, whose dedication keeps everything running and whose care for our learners shines through in every thing they do.

And to our learners: thank you for showing up, for sharing your time and trust, and letting us be a part of your learning journey. Your effort and enthusiasm are what make this job so rewarding.

Looking ahead, I'm excited to find new ways to connect and collaborate in our communities.

Sincerely,

Julie Streight

Julie Streight
Executive Director
Eastern Shore & Musquodoboit Valley Learning Network
902.391.0014
director@esmvlearning.ca



Statement of Activity

ESMV LEARNING NETWORK

September1,2024-June30,2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Income	
4005 LSI Core Funding	120,378.84
4041 Interest earned	3.78
GRANT INCOME	
4019 Books,Bites&Beyond, New Horizons	20,165.00
4029 LNS - Community Grant	2,825.00
TotalforGRANTINCOME	\$22,990.00
PROGRAM INCOME	
4011 Mobile Food Market	4,720.00
Total for PROGRAM INCOME	\$4,720.00
PROGRAM SUPPORT FUNDS-Other	
4025 Charitable Donations	425.00
4026 Fundraising Initiatives	4,333.00
4030 Community Partner Support	600.00
4035 Visa Reward Funds	496.19
Total for PROGRAM SUPPORT FUNDS-Other	\$5,854.19
SUBLEASED OFFICE SPACE	
4008 CHB - Musquodoboit Valley	2,660.00
4009 Province of NS-Dept of Justice	3,000.00
Total for SUBLEASEDOFFICESPACE	\$5,660.00
Total for Income	\$159,606.81
Gross Profit	\$159,606.81
Expenses	
5109 Mileage Expense	467.81
5115 Honorarium	400.00
5120 EQUIPMENT AND TECH- NSSAL	
5120 Quickbooks Accounting Program (deleted)	1,701.49
5122 Zoom Subscription (deleted)	346.53
5123 Tech for Learners (deleted)	2,821.62
Totalfor5120EQUIPMENTAND TECH-NSSAL	\$4,869.64
5412 Staff Development - PD	4,626.92
5615 Advertising and Promotion	2,094.50
FACILITIES	
5302 Rent for ESMV Space	31,984.01
Total for FACILITIES	\$31,984.01
GRANT EXPENDITURES - Purchases	
5111 Mobile Food Market Expense 5304	4,039.25
Jolly Phonics EXPENSE 5308 CSRB	3,656.21
Project Expenses 5310 LNS- Community	-4,837.50
Grant Purchases 5311 CFAL expenses	2,988.10
	2,122.20

Note: The fiscal year has been adjusted to align with the reporting cycle of our core funder, the Nova Scotia School for Adult Learning (NSSAL). As a result, this year's financial statements reflect a 10-month period (September–June) rather than a full 12 months.

Statement of Activity

ESMV LEARNING NETWORK

September1,2024-June30,2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
5312 Books, Bites & Beyond	2,492.71
5313 LNS PD Grant Expenses	2,017.52
TotalforGRANTEXPENDITURES - Purchases	\$12,478.49
OFFICE EXPENSES	
5112 Postage, Mailing Service	141.48
5113 Printing and Copying	70.94
5114 Supplies	2,153.56
Total for OFFICE EXPENSES	\$2,365.98
OTHER OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	
5124 Community Meeting Expenses	176.44
TotalforOTHER OPERATIONALEXPENSES	\$176.44
PAYROLL EXPENSES-GRANTS	
6011 Wages-GRANTS	11,492.00
6012 Employer Taxes-GRANTS	789.02
Total for PAYROLL EXPENSES-GRANTS	\$12,281.02
PAYROLL EXPENSES-NSSAL	
6001 Wages-NSSAL	247,856.30
6002 Employer Taxes-NSSAL	18,857.85
6003 Group Health Insurance-NSSAL	4,634.67
6004 IA Retirement (RPP)-NSSAL	9,336.58
Total for PAYROLL EXPENSES-NSSAL	\$280,685.40
PROFESSIONAL FEES	
5200 Other Accounting Services	100.00
5201 Bookkeeper Services (deleted)	275.00
5202 Business Registration Fees	43.60
5203 Computer Maintenance	857.16
5205 Equipment Delivery/Setup	272.03
5206 Membership fee LNS/Ansco	158.46
5207 Website Fees	808.46
5208 Membership fee Chamber of Commerce	75.00
5609 Peverill Accounting	2,247.00
Total for PROFESSIONAL FEES	\$4,836.71
PROGRAM MATERIALS	
5501 NSSAL Program Expense	3,751.53
5502 COMMUNITY LITERACY Program Materials	5,533.93
Total for PROGRAM MATERIALS	\$9,285.46
PROGRAM SUPPORT EXPENDITURES - Other	
5125 Wrap Around Support purchases	659.31
5303 Fundraiser/Campaign costs	2,467.49
5622 Unfunded office business expenses	1,201.22
5623 ABC Award Expenditures	600.00
TotalforPROGRAMSUPPORTEXPENDITURES - Other	\$4,928.02

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Statement of Activity

ESMV LEARNING NETWORK

September1,2024-June30,2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
RECURRING OPERATIONAL	
5600 Bank Service Fees	415.75
5601 Cell phone account	1,882.00
5602 Internet Service	970.45
TotalforRECURRINGOPERATIONAL	\$3,268.20
RESOURCE MATERIALS	
5121 Simon Sez it (deleted)	191.52
5400 NSSAL Resource Materials	2,159.61
5401 Community Lit Resource Materials	2,178.62
Total for RESOURCEMATRIALS	\$4,529.75
Total for Expenses	\$379,278.35
Other Income	
Other Expenses	
Profit	-\$219,671.54

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Statement of Financial Position

ESMV LEARNING NETWORK

As of June 30, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Assets	
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalent	
1050 ESMV Literacy Network	58,687.74
1052 Petty Cash	0.00
1055 Debit Card Account 78190208	3,768.02
1060 ANSCLO - FUNDS HELD IN TRUST	0.00
1250 Undeposited Funds	0.00
TotalforCashand CashEquivalent	\$62,455.76
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	
1203 Accounts Receivable	0.00
1210 Other Income	0.00
Grants Receivable	0.00
TotalforAccountsReceivable (A/R)	\$0.00
1204 Prepaid Expenses	
1205 MIFI Data Bell Mobility	0.00
1206 Tech Support	0.00
Totalfor1204PrepaidExpenses	\$0.00
1260 Office Equipment	0.00
TotalforCurrentAssets	\$62,455.76
Non-current Assets	
Property, plant and equipment	
Total for Non-currentAssets	
Total for Assets	\$62,455.76
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	
2100 Accounts Payable	3,754.18
TotalforAccountsPayable (A/P)	\$3,754.18
Credit Card	
2110 Visa	7,676.20
TotalforCredit Card	\$7,676.20
2060 ANSCLO Liability Account	0.00
2180 Payroll Liabilities	\$0.00
2181 Group Health	1,217.19
2182 Federal Taxes	8,401.20
2183 iA Financial Group	1,939.64
2184 T4 Summary difference assessmen	0.00

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Statement of Financial Position

ESMV LEARNING NETWORK

As of June 30, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Total for 2180 Payroll Liabilities	\$11,558.03
2200 Unearned or Deferred Revenue	239,395.17
2210 Direct Deposit Payable	0.00
2315 GST/HST Payable	-\$7,841.09
GST/HST	-2,470.17
Total for 2315 GST/HST Payable	-\$10,311.26
Receiver General Suspense	2,743.98
Total for Current Liabilities	\$254,816.30
Non-currentLiabilities	
Total for Liabilities	\$254,816.30
Equity	
3560 Opening Balance Equity	105,920.27
3561 Unrestricted Net Assets	-78,609.27
Profit fortheyear	-219,671.54
Total for Equity	-\$192,360.54
Total for Liabilities and Equity	\$62,455.76

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