



Computers for Schools

Nova Scotia

First Edition

November 2004

Message from the Chair

It has been my privilege to be associated with the Nova Scotia Computers for Schools Program since its inception in 1994. CFS exhibits so much of what is wonderful about Canada - ten provinces, three territories and the Federal Government working together with the vital support of a large band of volunteers, particularly the Telecom Pioneers, to provide computer equipment to schools from coast to coast to coast. Canada is the first country in the world to achieve this goal.

Inside....

Progress Report

CFS and partnerships seem almost synonymous. At the provincial level the program is a partnership among the Department of Education who provide funding, space and services; NovaKnowledge, who act as the umbrella organization and who hold our license under the Federal Agreement; Nova Scotia School Boards who provide workshops; and Industry Canada who provides our core funding and support.

Letters of Thanks

Workshop in Focus

Donor in Focus

Our tenth year has been a very busy one. In the spring we celebrated the delivery of the 20,000th computer, later we opened a First Nations Workshop that was then being operated by the Atlantic Canada's First Nation Help Desk in cooperation with the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board and finally we hosted the annual business meeting of the CFS programs from each province and territory. I should hasten to add that while all this was going on the program delivered 4,300 computers to schools, libraries and related institutions.

I want to pay particular attention to our two permanent staff, Michael Nicksy, our Coordinator and Stacy Barnes, our Administrator - they are the backbone of the program.

We look forward to another successful year and we have plans to expand our program even further.

Bernie Hart, Chair, CFS-NS

Quick Facts about CFS-NS

- ★ There are six workshops across Nova Scotia; Halifax, Sackville, Lawrencetown, Truro, Indian Brook and Sydney
- ★ Our Technical Work Experience Program (TWEP) employs approximately 20 recent IT graduates a year
- ★ We distribute approximately 3, 500 computers a year to schools and related institutions across Nova Scotia; the National CFS Program has delivered more than 500,000 computers across Canada
- ★ We celebrated our 10th Anniversary in January 2004

Background of CFS-NS

Computers for Schools-Nova Scotia created in January 1994 to provide computers, free of charge, to Schools, Provincial Libraries, Adult Literacy Program, Private Schools, First Nations and related institutions. Computer equipment is donated to the program by the private sector and government departments, both Provincial and Federal. HRSDC's Technical Work Experience Program (TWEP) provides the people to refurbish computers; we hire recent IT graduates to work annually in our repair centres for 13-week terms. Trainees receive work experience that they can use when looking for full-time work. The program is run on a day to day basis by a full time Coordinator and Administrator and work shop supervisors. The overall program is overseen by an Executive Committee and a Steering Committee. The Steering Committee is made up of representatives from NovaKnowledge, Nova Scotia Department of Education, Industry Canada, Nova Scotia Teachers Union, Nova Scotia School Boards Association, Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour, Human Resources Sector Council and Aliant Pioneer Volunteers. The Committee is chaired by Bernie Hart, a volunteer who has been involved in CFS-NS since the beginning and was one of the founding members.

Workshops in Focus

In each issue of the newsletter focus will be on one or more of the workshops that are operated within CFS-NS.

In the first issue the focus is on the main workshop/office located in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

This workshop has been in operation since the beginning and is where all equipment donated to the program is received, sorted, refurbished and/or distributed to the other work shops in the Province.

The Workshop refurbishes/distributes computers for seven school boards, First Nations, Provincial Libraries, Adult Literacy Programs, Private Schools and Non-Profits.

The full time Coordinator is Mike Nicksy and full time Administrator is Stacy Barnes are assisted by three to four trainees working in the repair centre.

The shop operates Monday to Friday, 8am to 5pm. All space for the shop is generously donated by the Nova Scotia Department of Education.

Computers Distributed
1st Quarter (Apr-June) 1,136
2nd Quarter (July-Sept) 862

TWEP Hired
1st Quarter (April-June) 5
2nd Quarter (July-Sept) 2

Computers Shipped Since 1994
26,269

Notes from our Clients

Below are a few notes of thanks that we have received from schools, teachers, students, etc.

“The Computers For Schools Program has been an irreplaceable tool...”
Gerard Costard
Halifax Regional School Board

“...CFS program is a significant asset for the Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board.”
Rick Simm
Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board

A mention of our long time supporters





SPOTLIGHT ON DONORS



Without our donors we would not have many computers to distribute to the schools and others in Nova Scotia. This section of the newsletters will put the spotlight on a donor and given them the credit that they deserve for being helping CFS-NS reach it's goals.

Department of National Defence

The Department of National Defence (DND) is a valued donor to the Computers for Schools Program (CFS) in Nova Scotia. They are not only responsible for providing us with approximately 50% of all the computer equipment that we receive but they also provide us with transportation of those donated materials at no cost. The partnership between CFS and DND is a beneficial relationship to both parties. CFS provides DND with a positive disposal system for their computer hardware and DND provides CFS with valuable equipment in very large numbers that allows the program to continue to provided the much needed technology in Nova Scotia schools and related institutions. CFS-NS looks forward to the continued success of such a valuable partnership and also to the continued joint success that we have together in providing the computer hardware to the schools of Nova Scotia and our children

Note from our donor:

“The Department of National Defence recognizes the important role it plays in providing surplus computer assets to the Computers for Schools - Nova Scotai (CFS-NS) program. Records indicate that Maritime Forces Atlantic (MARLANT) has contributed a total of 4,906 assets to CFS-NS over the previous 8-month period. A Bravo Zulu is to be extended to the many volunteers that support such a worthwhile cause in ensuring that these assets reach supported institutions in serviceable condition. MARLANT looks forward to its continued support to CFS-NS now and well into the future.”

Mr. Buzz Collier

Integrated Waste and Hazardous Materials Officer

Notes from CFS-NS

Please distribute this newsletter throughout your company to that all employees can see how the donation of computer equipment can help our students in Nova Scotia. Thanks!

To donate equipment or become involved in our program, please call our office at (902) 424-3596 and speak with Stacy

Visit our Website: trp.ednet.ns.ca

Questions, Comments or Ideas,
please send them to trp@gov.ns.ca

If you wish to write to CFS-NS, please
send letters to:

Technology Recycling Program
3770 Kempt Road
Halifax, NS B3K 4X8