

Dartmouth Learning Network

Annual Report 2024-2025



The Big Move

On March 10, 2025, Dartmouth Learning Network moved into a new learning space located downtown Dartmouth, at 45 Alderney Drive, Ste 604.



Message from Board Chairperson

After a challenging year, we have happily settled into our new, bright, and cheery location – a good move!

The journeys of our learners are as dynamic as they are, and the DLN strives to provide everyone with the skills necessary to thrive and succeed in this fast-paced and increasingly digital world. We are actively building strong relationships with other community learning organizations and service providers in our new neighbourhood, as combined efforts to support our learners and their families will ensure their success as they take steps to boost their earning potential. The DLN is also proud to have introduced new programs to meet these needs, like our new partnership with the Red-Seal trades –please visit our website for more information on this and our existing programs.

The Board of Directors is establishing new organizational goals for the next three years (2025 –2028), focusing on responsive and relevant programming and pathways to learning and employment, to continue supporting our learners through new partner referrals and engagement in our Dartmouth Learning Network community.

Nancy Walters, Board Chairperson

Reflections from the Executive Director



As I look back on this past year, I am filled with both pride and gratitude—for the resilience of our team, the strength of our community, and the unwavering commitment of our partners and supporters. In a year marked by changes, including a move to a new learning space, our organization not only stayed true to its mission but also expanded its impact in meaningful and measurable ways.

This year, we improved our learning space, deepened our partnerships, and launched innovative initiatives that responded to the evolving needs of our community such as food and financial security programs.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the collective efforts of our dedicated staff, board members, volunteers, donors, and community partners. Your belief in our mission has propelled us forward and continues to inspire everything we do.

Looking ahead, I am excited about what's to come. We are entering the next chapter of our work with a renewed sense of purpose. There is still much work to do, but I remain confident that, together, we can continue building a more just, compassionate, and thriving community.

Thank you for standing with us. Here's to another year of impact, growth, and possibility.

Veronica McNeil, Executive Director

Dartmouth Learning Network served 90 learners in 2024 - 2025

Communication Foundations

- Reading
- Writing
- Spelling
- Grammar
- Field trips to libraries and cultural centres

**28
learners**

**8
learners**

Reading strategies provides instruction in structured literacy which benefits learners with learning disabilities.

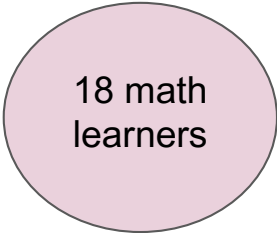
Math, CFAT and CAEC

Math

Everyone's favorite subject!

We provide math education up to a Grade 10 level in prep for learners moving to the Adult High School program at NSCC.

Two learners completed math and advanced to NSCC.



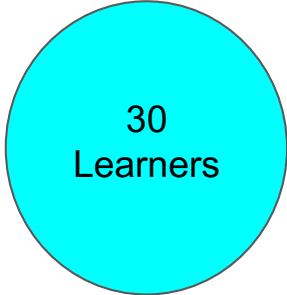
18 math
learners



CFAT
2 members wrote
CFAT and received
promotions

Canadian Adult Education Credential

- Replaced the former GED
- Opened to the public mid-October 2024
- Two learners received CAEC credentials
- Many have 1 or 2 tests left to pass.



30
Learners

Basic Digital Skills & GEO NS Partnership

Computer Basics Instruction on using common computer functions, digital security, google accounts, set up files and emails.

Our partner with GEO NS resulted in 37 learners obtaining free computers, mobile phone and/or internet.



DLN is a referral partner with GEO NS, a NGO that provides free digital access to Nova Scotians.

37 learners received free laptops, mobile phones and/or internet service

Through GEO NS, 37 learners were provided free laptops, mobile phones and/or internet. This allows learners to practice and increase their digital skills.

Computer Applications & Skills for Advancement

Computer Applications

- Google applications
- Microsoft applications
- Projects such as resumes, job searches, etc.
- 3D Printing

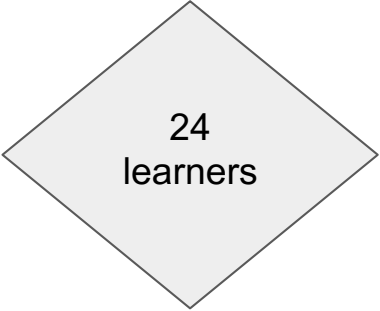


15 learners

Skills for Advancement

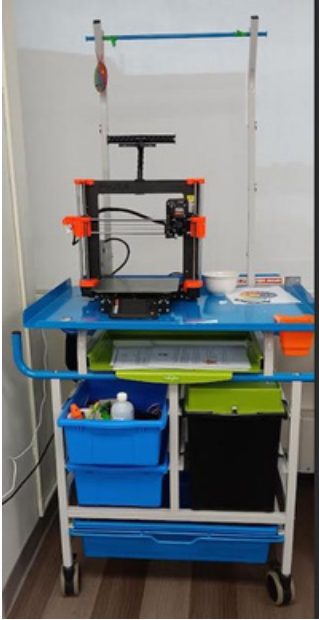
This program combines computer applications with employment readiness. Learners engage in self-assessments, portfolio development, setting goals and career exploration.

HRM Job Fair - a field trip to the job fair resulted in two learners entering the workforce.



24
learners

3D Printer



A donation to DLN in 2024, the 3D printer is used in computer applications and is a favorite activity for learners to apply their digital skills.



Community Learning

Focusing on non-academic skill building to support the learning journey.

- Food Literacy
- Financial Literacy
- You 2.0
- CVITP - 880 tax returns filed
- Volunteer Tutors



Family Literacy Day Fair - Saturday, January 25, 2025

Family Literacy Day is a national event held every January in communities across the country to promote literacy and a love of reading within the family.

A community coalition of local agencies brings this fun local event to Dartmouth every January. Families participate in a variety free learning activities, author readings and go home with LOTS of free books for everyone in the family.

The Community coalition includes Dartmouth Learning Network, BGCGH Dartmouth North, The North Grove, HRM Public Libraries, United for Literacy, and HRM Waste Mgmt.



Trades Tutoring Program

Developed in 2023 and funded by NSSAL, the Trades Tutoring Program now offers free weekly classes for construction electrician and plumbing apprentices, with a Red Seal Tutor.

.... Coming this fall, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning/HVAC

43 CE and Plumbing Apprentices

Community Field Trips

Thanks to the support of Literacy Nova Scotia, our learners were able to participate in community field trips that help to deepen learner experiences.

Quaker House - 11 learners
Citadel Hill - 16 learners
Black Cultural Centre - 23 Learners
Public Libraries - 15 learners
North Grove - 21 learners
HRM Job Fair April - 15 learners





Financials and Donors

Dartmouth Learning Network Society
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT MARCH 31, 2025

	2025	2024
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 298,889	\$ 382,015
HST Receivable	1,929	2,785
Prepaid Expenses and Sundry Assets	<u>6,374</u>	<u>104</u>
	<u>\$ 307,192</u>	<u>\$ 384,904</u>
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 5,532	\$ 5,515
Deferred Grants (Note 4)	<u>185,049</u>	<u>290,071</u>
	<u>190,581</u>	<u>295,586</u>
NET ASSETS		
CONTINGENCY FUND	13,874	13,874
NET ASSETS	<u>102,737</u>	<u>75,444</u>
	<u>116,611</u>	<u>89,318</u>
	<u>\$ 307,192</u>	<u>\$ 384,904</u>

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

 Director
 Director

Dartmouth Learning Network is grateful for the financial support provided by:

- Government of Nova Scotia - Nova Scotia School for Adult Learning
- Government of Canada
- United Way Maritimes
- Literacy NS - Learner Field Trips & nutritious snacks
- Community Health Board NS
- Communities, Culture, Heritage and Tourism
- GEO Nova Scotia
- Donors - Thank you!!!