



Anna Burke, Acting NSCC President

June 02, 2026

President Burke:

The Board and membership of the Canadian Association of Professional Academic Librarians (CAPAL/ACBES) are shocked by the decision to eliminate all librarian positions within the Nova Scotia Community College. This decision will have negative consequences for NSCC students and the NSCC community at large, not to mention potential damage to the academic reputation of your institution. The work and role of librarians are an integral part of the academic ecosystem. We ask that you reconsider eliminating these positions and return these professionals to their workplace to continue their vital work.

The removal of librarians from NSCC will create gaps in learning and skill acquisition that can be expected to impact academic achievement.¹ Colleges with robust library services better prepare students for careers that demand critical thinking and digital literacy skills, both necessary for an economy that seeks to be globally competitive. Librarians bring unique and valuable skills to academic institutions, including information literacy education to improve students' expertise in research methods and analysis across all disciplines. Without these librarians you will find it difficult, if not impossible, to provide, “the best programming, the best supports and services that will help them prepare for college, succeed while they are at college, thrive in their programs, and ultimately find meaningful careers in the workforce.”²

¹ Fitzgerald, S. R., Berube, S., Jiang, Z., & Ting, C. (2025). Library Use and Student Success: Focus on First Generation Students. *New Review of Academic Librarianship*, 31(3), 245–263.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/13614533.2025.2466519>

Mushtaq, M., & Shahzan, M. (2025). Libraries as Supporting Agencies for Enhancing the Ranking Score of Academic Institutes. *The International Information & Library Review*, 57(4), 307–320.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/10572317.2025.2482506>

² Willick, F. (2026, May 6). NSCC eliminates 91 positions as it grapples with \$15M deficit. *CBC*.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/nsc-eliminates-91-positions-as-it-grapples-with-15m-deficit-9.7189712>

In summary, we at CAPAL/ACBES ask the Administration of the Nova Scotia Community College commit to quality education by reinstating the eliminated librarian positions.

Respectfully,

Canadian Association of Professional Academic Librarians/Association canadienne des bibliothécaires en enseignement supérieur (CAPAL/ACBES) Board of Directors

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