



# News Release

*Contact:*  
**Jason Parent**  
Development and  
College Relations Office  
33 Edgemont Drive  
Presque Isle, ME 04769  
Phone: (207) 768-2808  
Fax: (207) 768-2813  
jparent@nmcc.edu

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## **NMCC Foundation celebrates year of unprecedented growth at annual dinner**

**Aroostook County** - Coming off a year that saw an unprecedented growth of 60 percent in the organization's net assets, the Northern Maine Community College Foundation recently celebrated its success and lauded some of their own at an annual dinner held at the NMCC campus.

Board members, donors, college students, alumni, faculty and administrators gathered for the event marking two decades since the Foundation's establishment, as well as the past year, which saw significant development. The non-profit organization exists to support the NMCC campus community by raising and managing student scholarship funds and other special initiatives that assist students in reaching their goals of attaining a post-secondary degree at the County College.

"This has been a wonderful year of progress for the Northern Maine Community College Foundation. As we reflect on our accomplishments, we have poised the foundation to enter a new era. In addition to tremendous growth in our financial portfolio, we have increased our program of work and established a strong framework for future development," said Raynold Gauvin, Foundation board chair.

Aside from building organization assets, the Foundation's past fiscal year, which ended June 30, included disbursement of nearly \$15,000 in student scholarship money. Other activity included the establishment of a faculty incentive grant program to acknowledge and provide public recognition for the scholarly work of NMCC faculty, two fundraisers, a targeted annual appeal, and preliminary work on a major gifts campaign the Foundation and College are planning to launch in early 2007.

"NMCC provides opportunity and hope for its students and the Aroostook County community," said NMCC President Timothy Crowley. "The work of the Foundation is providing a basis for strong community relationships that are focused on providing opportunity for students to achieve their dreams and live a fuller life. The challenges for higher education are becoming greater at a time when the need for higher education is as great as it has ever been. The Foundation is helping to bridge the gap between what is available to students and institutional support and what is needed to help NMCC achieve its mission of student and community development."

Crowley's remarks were followed by Foundation Executive Director Lisa Corrigan, who announced that over the past fiscal year three scholarships reached endowment level, including the Larry Cowett Memorial Scholarship, the G. Melvin and Phyllis J. Hovey Scholarship, and the Larry and Audrey Thibodeau Scholarship.

"NMCC students will be the direct beneficiaries of these three funds. We greatly appreciate the support we have received and look forward to further cultivating existing relationships, as well as developing new ones," said Corrigan.

As part of the evening's business, two outgoing directors were honored for their service, and three new members were elected and welcomed to the board.

Directors Robert Clark of Fort Fairfield, who is the executive director of the Northern Maine Development Commission and Fred Bustard of Scarborough, a long time executive with Maine Public Service Company who retired from the company a few years ago were recognized for helping move the organization forward.

Clark, who had most recently served as board vice chair, stepped down earlier this year to avoid conflict after being appointed to the Maine Community College Board of Trustees. Bustard elected to retire after serving the Foundation more than a decade. To honor his years of service and devotion, Bustard was bestowed director emeritus status by the board. The presentation was made by Crowley and former NMCC President Durward Huffman.

"Thank you for your time, wisdom and commitment. We are doing wonderful things for this institution and for our students, and that is in no small part due to your efforts and encouragement," said Huffman in honoring Bustard.

The final honor of the evening "The Eagle Award", which is given to an individual who has provided exemplary service to the Foundation, was presented to Sandy Gauvin of Mapleton, a retired educator and current secretary of the NMCC Foundation Board of Directors.

"She gives tremendous time and effort to the Foundation and College and has been critical in efforts to further this organization," said Crowley. "She has indeed been an inspiration and important leader in our efforts to transition the Foundation and I want to thank her."

New members joining the Foundation board include Gregg Collins of Caribou, S.W. Collins Company; Carl Flora of Presque Isle, president and CEO of the Loring Development Authority; and Brian Hamel of Presque Isle, founder and CEO of Hamel Enterprises.

In addition to the three new members, the NMCC Foundation board is comprised of Gary Cleaves, general manager of the Maine Military Authority in Limestone; NMCC President Timothy Crowley; Lois Dickson, owner of Tempo Employment Service of Presque Isle; Charles Eber, retired of Presque Isle; Raynold Gauvin, retired of Mapleton; Sandra Gauvin, retired of Mapleton; Peter Hunt, owner of Harry's Honda and Mitsubishi of Presque Isle; Michael Kelley, executive vice president of TD Banknorth in Presque Isle; Larry LaPlante, finance director of NMCC; Edwin Nickerson, director of business development at the Loring Development Authority.

Also on the NMCC Foundation Board are: David Raymond, humanities instructor at NMCC; Roger Roy, executive vice president at MMG Insurance of Presque Isle; Bruce Sandstrom, senior vice president of finance at The Aroostook Medical Center in Presque Isle; Connie Sandstrom, executive director of the Aroostook County Action Program in Presque Isle; Vicki Smith, vice president of marketing at Kathadin Trust Company in Houlton; Terry Wade, plant manager at Smith and Wesson in Houlton; Burpee Wagner, retired of Perth-Andover, New Brunswick; and Robert White, trade instructor at NMCC.

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Recognized for their years of service to Northern Maine Community College Foundation at the organization's annual dinner were directors Robert Clark (center left) of Fort Fairfield and Fred Bustard (center right) of Scarborough (formerly of Presque Isle). Honoring the two directors were former NMCC President Durward Huffman (left) and NMCC President Timothy Crowley (right).



New board directors elected to the NMCC Foundation Board at the organization's annual dinner and meeting are (left to right) Carl Flora and Brian Hamel of Presque Isle who were welcomed by NMCC Foundation Board Chair Raynold Gauvin and NMCC President Timothy Crowley.



NMCC President Timothy Crowley presents NMCC Foundation Board Secretary Sandy Gauvin of Mapleton with the Eagle Award for service above and beyond at the recent NMCC Foundation Annual Dinner.