



# Co-OP WORKS



Dear Co-op Employers,

Spring is always a nice time for the Co-op Team to pause and reflect on activities over the last year.

This year we delivered many new initiatives based on feedback we have been collecting from our students and educational partners. One of these activities was a professional development conference, titled *Roadmap to Success* for summer co-op students and interns. The event generated some great discussions! Read more about the conference on page two.

This report also provides an opportunity to highlight the accomplishments of our students and employers. We recognize that our program would not be possible without the commitment and dedication of our educational partners. Thank you!

To acknowledge our employers and students, the Mount instituted the annual Co-op Student of the Year and Employer of the Year awards. This year, we are pleased to say we received 22 student and 23 employer nominations.

This past fall, the Mount also launched a new business program in non-profit leadership. This is the only program of its kind in the Atlantic region.

The nonprofit sector in Canada is one of the largest in the world and the Mount is keen to be taking a lead role in the delivery of this program. We are confident that graduates of this program will be well-equipped to take on senior-level roles in this sector.

Looking ahead to the summer, we are pleased to announce that we will be launching the new Orbis co-op portal which will make the hiring process that much easier for you. Employers will be able to post jobs, receive applications, shortlist for interviews and make offers online. Stay tuned for more information about the portal in the coming weeks.

147 co-op and internship students will be completing work terms this summer. Interested in hiring for the upcoming summer term? It's not too late — get in touch with our office. We hope you enjoy this issue of Co-op Works. Thank you for your continued support of our program.

Scott Daniels  
Manager, Co-operative Education



## Important Dates

- **May 9**  
First posting deadline
- **May 14**  
First round of postings
- **May 29**  
Ongoing postings begin
- **June 8**  
First day of interviews

## The Mount Co-op Student of the Year Award (2017)

The Mount Co-op Student of the Year Award was established in 1999 to celebrate students' achievements in the workplace and to mark the 20th anniversary of Co-operative Education at the Mount. A co-op student from each of the following co-op disciplines may be selected for the award: Business Administration, Public Relations and Tourism & Hospitality Management.

This year, 22 nominations were received from co-op employers. The Mount Co-op Students of the Year (2017) were joined by their supervisors and recognized during the Mount Academic Awards Reception on Wednesday April 4, 2018. Congratulations to all of the award winners!

**Deandra Doyle, Public Relations**, nominated by Better Business Bureau in Halifax, NS for her first work term.

**Evan Hollihan, Business Administration**, nominated by Steele Auto Group in Dartmouth, NS for her first work term.

**Daniel LeBlanc, Tourism & Hospitality Management**, nominated by Delta Barrington in Halifax, NS for his third work term.



## The Mount Co-op Employer of the Year Award (2017)

In 2009, we instituted the Mount Co-op Employer of the Year Award in recognition of the 30th anniversary of the Co-operative Education program at the Mount. This award acknowledges employers who displayed commitment, excellence and longstanding support of the Mount Co-op program.

Congratulations to the following employers who received the Mount Co-op Employer of the Year (2017) awards, and to all who were nominated.

**Margaret Angus, Senior Communications Advisor** at Nova Scotia Health Authority in Halifax, NS - *Nominated by Kathryn Gallant, BPR student.*

**Krista Harding, Executive Director** at South Shore Opportunities in Bridgewater, NS - *Nominated by Amanda Dolliver, BBA student.*

**Kelly Teschendorff, Housekeeping Manager** at Delta Barrington in Halifax, NS - *Nominated by Chen Yang, BTHM student.*

## New Nonprofit Leadership Program at the Mount

In September 2018, the Mount will launch a new program in nonprofit leadership – the only one of its kind in the Atlantic region.

The program will prepare students for careers that make a difference in the world with a focus in community and global leadership. Leaders in the nonprofit sector are changing lives through their work in charitable organizations and NGOs at home and abroad, social and recreational organizations, educational institutions, hospitals and more.

"We are a university founded on the principles of social justice and remain unique in the strength of that emphasis," said Dr. Peter Mombourquette, Chair, Department of Business and Tourism at the Mount.

"We offer a different kind of educational opportunity, one that aligns with our mission as a university focused on nurturing socially responsible global citizens."

Students who enroll in this program will learn about the many facets of nonprofit leadership: staff and volunteer management, board governance, finance management, marketing, and strategic planning. If you would like more information on this program, visit the Mount's [website](#) or contact Dr. Scott MacMillan at [scott.macmillan@msvu.ca](mailto:scott.macmillan@msvu.ca).



## Roadmap to Success Conference Yields Positive Results

Entering into a first time co-op or internship can be both exciting and nerve-wracking. In an effort to mitigate these nerves and to help students prepare for their upcoming work terms, the Mount Co-op Team hosted its inaugural *Roadmap to Success* Conference for all summer 2018 co-op and internship students.

Through a series of presentations from co-op staff and employers, students learned about a variety of topics related to interviewing, communication, developing learning objectives and using LinkedIn to optimize their job search.



Employers from across a variety of sectors were also in attendance to participate in a panel discussion. The panel generated some thoughtful conversations and allowed students to hear more about what employers are looking for in their future employees.

The day closed off with a networking reception where students were able to make connections with potential future employers. We want to thank everyone who attended this event. A special thanks to our guest speakers and those who participated in our panel discussion.

## CEWIL Expands Mandate

After several consultations and discussions, Co-operative Education & Work Integrated Learning Canada, CEWIL Canada, (previously known as CAFCE) has expanded its mandate to include other forms of work-integrated learning. Under this new mandate, CEWIL will be the voice for post-secondary co-operative education programs and other forms of experiential learning, including internships, practicums, service learning and more.

The new mandate will allow CEWIL members to actively contribute to the discussions on work-integrated learning with industry leaders as well as provincial and federal government representatives. It also enables the association to advocate for and support the interests of many stakeholders including students, employers and post-secondary institutions. All Mount co-op programs are accredited by CEWIL Canada. For more information on CEWIL, visit [www.cewilcanada.ca](http://www.cewilcanada.ca).

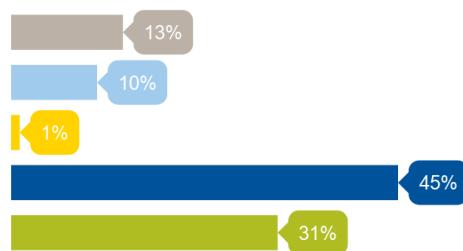


## Mount Co-op Statistics for 2017

Average Hourly Salaries (by program)



Co-op Employer Breakdown in 2017



## STRONG WOMEN WORK HERE – NATIONAL PR Firm Values Creativity, Collaboration and Fun

ARTICLE WRITTEN BY NATALIE KNICKLE, BPR STUDENT

Motivating, creative and fun. These are the words that Public Relations co-op student, Karly Piercy used to describe her work term at NATIONAL Public Relations firm located in Halifax. Karly shares the same feeling I had when I walked into the firm. You walk in and feel like you can do anything.

### An empowering atmosphere

There is no dream too big and no goal is unattainable. The office is trendy and the walls have the words “Strong women work here”. There is something empowering about walking into an organization who has a strong focus on women. In fact, women occupy many of the senior level positions.

Laurel Taylor, Emily Seaman, and Karly Piercy are the three women I visited with to learn more about their roles. Laurel Taylor, graduated from the Mount’s Public Relations program and is now a Senior Consultant. Emily is the most recent Mount PR student to become an employee at NATIONAL and acted as a mentor for Karly.



### Diversity in the work

Not knowing what to expect, Karly went into her last work term with NATIONAL with a sense of curiosity and the desire to learn more about working in a fast-paced PR firm. The work term exposed her to a variety of different projects and clients. When asked what skills would make a person successful in a role at NATIONAL, Laurel stated that it would be important to be “curious, tapped into community, humble, eager to learn, and have the desire to do impactful work to shape the world around you.”



L-R: Laurel Taylor, Karly Piercy and Emily Seaman

Going into her last work term Karly knew she wanted agency experience. “I think I was drawn to agency work because I love the idea of working with more than one organization.” Karly found motivation in knowing each of her days was going to be different than the last.

“The best part about working in an agency is that you don’t really have an average day. Every day is so different. My favorite days were the ones spent working on request for proposals with tight deadlines and being able to work alongside the creative team.”

### Mount alumni leading the way

Karly also enjoyed working closely with Mount alumnae who encouraged her to think boldly and to get involved with various members of the team to broaden her knowledge. Overall, it’s clear that NATIONAL values new perspectives, teamwork and giving students an opportunity to develop their knowledge.

NATIONAL Public Relations is the largest public relations consultancy firm in Canada with offices in Canada, US and the UK. The firm works with many clients across a variety of sectors. Some of their clients include Nova Scotia Power, the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, Gildan, Samsung and the Nova Centre. To learn more about NATIONAL PR and services offered visit <http://www.national.ca>.