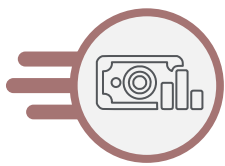




Economic and Social Impact Study of East Preston Empowerment Academy (EPEA)

EPEA is located in the historic Preston Township. Established in 2014, EPEA was created to **empower** and **equip** members of its community with the tools to enhance their skills, qualifications, and employability through accessible and free of charge programming.

Summary of EPEA Cumulative Economic Contribution from 2016-2020¹



\$1.02M

GDP Contribution



\$783K

Labour Income



\$161K

Government Revenues²



14

Sustained Jobs (FTEs)

Summary of Socioeconomic Benefits

Additionally, EPEA generates significant socioeconomic benefits to the broader local and provincial economies, summarized below.



Removing Barriers to Education

- EPEA offers upskilling and reskilling programs to African Nova Scotians, which has the potential to support Halifax and Nova Scotia's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic
- EPEA works to reduce the educational attainment gap that exists for African Nova Scotians



Strengthening Labour Market Integration in Skilled Trades

- EPEA has partnered with government, academia, and industry to deliver successful apprenticeship programs for African Nova Scotians
- EPEA programs support the supply of a diverse workforce in trades in Nova Scotia



Supporting Better Employment Opportunities

- EPEA addresses labour force participation challenges by improving the employability of African Nova Scotians through programs geared towards upgrading skills and navigating the labour market
- Through supporting upskilling and reskilling, EPEA enables individuals to access higher wages

1. These figures include direct, indirect and induced impacts.

2. The estimate for the government revenues include provincial and municipal taxes on taxes on products and production, as well as corporate and personal income taxes.



Economic and Social Impact Study of East Preston Empowerment Academy (EPEA)

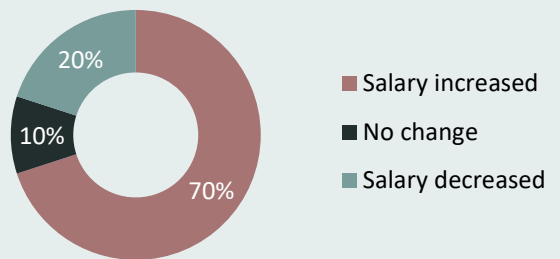
The EPEA Program welcomes participants from all communities, not just East Preston. The EPEA instructors and Educators are not only looking to further the education of their own community members, but welcome any individual, in any community, who's interested in furthering their education and skills.

– EPEA participant

Many participants are likely to recommend EPEA to others:

- About 85% of EPEA program participants indicate that they are likely to recommend EPEA to a friend or colleague.

Impact of EPEA program on hourly salary range of the respondents



Most EPEA program participants are employed and working either full time or part time:

- About 68% of EPEA program participants are employed, with 43% working full time, and 15% working part time.



The collaboration between EPA and NSCC allowed us to provide meaningful training and skills to a group that may not have had the opportunity.

– EPEA Partner

EPEA participants are better able to support themselves and their family after participating in the EPEA program:

- Over 50% of EPEA program participants agree that participating EPEA program increased their ability to support themselves and their family.



The program gave me the willpower to go out and not be afraid to go back into the school system and pursue further education. [...] EPEA was an encouragement, and empowering force

– EPEA Participant