



THE HOMEbody SYMPOSIUM

2015

OVERVIEW

- HOMEbody in brief
- Leading the Dialogue
- The Performance
- The Symposium
- Sponsors and Partners
- Setting the Stage
- Symposium Highlights - [video](#)
- Graphic Recording
- The Power of Stories
- Stories from New Brunswick Changemakers - [video](#)
- Creating our Story
- Project Pitches - [video](#)
- Project Pitches - summaries
- Feedback from Participants
- Ways to Connect



HELP CREATE THE NEW BRUNSWICK STORY

The HOMEbody Symposium took place on May 6th, 2015. The provincial event was organized as an inspired dialogue on shaping New Brunswick's future with post-secondary students and newcomers to the province, along with entrepreneurs, thought-leaders, artists, academics, social enterprises and industry specialists. The fully bilingual symposium included presentations by John Bragg, Chairman & Co-CEO Oxford Frozen Foods Ltd., President and Owner/Founder of Eastlink; Richard Saillant, Director of the Canadian Institute for Research on Public Policy and Public Administration; award winning Canadian Author Noah Richler, and dancer choreographer Shannon Litzenberger. Participants also heard the stories of twenty-two emerging businesses, place makers, and social ventures that are "making it" in New Brunswick.

The symposium sought to change negative perceptions and attitudes about New Brunswick as well as build pride of place among future community builders. It connected young people with community change-makers and leaders who chose to stay in New Brunswick by carving their unique paths to success. The focus of the day was to challenge the group to help "Create the Story" of New Brunswick as a place of innovation and opportunity.

The HOMEbody Symposium

1 DAY
1 DANCER
246 PARTICIPANTS
22 CHANGEMAKERS
187 STUDENTS
37 NEWCOMERS
10+ COMMUNITIES
9+ COUNTRIES
17 PROJETS PRESENTED
NB

#HOMEbodyNB

ATLANTIC
BALLET-THÉÂTRE
ATLANTIQUE
CANADA

Shannon
Litzenberger
CONTEMPORARY DANCE



ATLANTIC BALLET THEATRE OF CANADA

LEADING THE DIALOGUE

The HOMEbody Symposium 2015 is a public engagement initiative of Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada. The Symposium was organized in partnership, with artist-in-residence Shannon Litzenberger, whose performance HOMEbody inspired the event, and Artslink NB.

Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada is committed to using arts as a vehicle for public dialogue and civic engagement. The Ballet actively engages in projects and initiatives in the community every year on different themes and issues. Perhaps few issues are timelier than outmigration and retaining talent here in New Brunswick. No one is better able than artists to reflect the current situation and imagine alternatives to the status quo. Arts are a means to engage communities in public dialogue, contribute to the development of a community's creative learning, provide a powerful tool for community mobilization, and help build community capacity and leadership. As the HOMEbody Symposium beautifully illustrated, arts helps us tell our stories, reflect and learn from these stories, and shape our collective future.



ATLANTIC BALLET THEATRE OF CANADA

LEADING THE DIALOGUE



Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada is a successful start-up located in Moncton, New Brunswick, working locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. Since its inception in 2001, Atlantic Ballet Theatre has built an original repertoire of ballets created in New Brunswick, developed an international reputation as an exporting company, and created jobs and immigration opportunities in New Brunswick. In addition to artistic excellence, The Ballet is committed to making a contribution to community through art and public engagement initiatives.



THE PERFORMANCE

"HOMEbody is an exploration of identity, belonging and place through the lens of my own experience growing up on a Saskatchewan farm and later moving to the largest city in the country – Toronto. While my family's farm is nearing its centennial anniversary, the property to the north and south of our home quarter has long been vacated, the houses left abandoned – decaying monuments of their pioneering roots. These homes represent not only an abandonment of place, but also characterize the mass exodus of my generation from rural life. HOMEbody is both an intimate portrait of my childhood prairie home and a tribute to the importance of where we come from." – Shannon Litzenberger

The HOMEbody Symposium was inspired by the multi-media performance HOMEbody created by acclaimed dancer, choreographer, writer, arts advocate and policy buff, Shannon Litzenberger. Through the creative umbrella of her company Shannon Litzenberger Contemporary Dance, she creates innovative multi-disciplinary productions that explore timely social issues using contemporary dance in concert with other mediums like storytelling, film, visual art and poetry. Miss Litzenberger created **HOMEbody - Lessons in Prairie Living** over 4 years, starting in 2008. The show was first produced in Toronto in 2012. The success of the show and the resonance of its themes in eastern Canada brought Miss Litzenberger and the Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada together to talk about exploring these themes through a community engagement symposium in New Brunswick.





"In the kitchen of an abandoned farmhouse, a curtain blows gently in the window. On stage, dancer Shannon Litzenberger approaches the larger-than-life image displayed on a screen, as the sounds of a regular day unfold. A cupboard door bangs, while a football game plays from another room. Memory and time collide. Using imagery such as a stop sign at a gravel crossroads, a field of wheat blowing in the wind, with a fencepost and table as props, the interpretive performance uses dance to evoke a sense of both leaving and returning home."

-Lori Gallagher, The Daily Gleaner

Many New Brunswickers are all too familiar with the stories of friends and relatives leaving the province in search of jobs and a better life. Outmigration is part of the reality in this province; however, it's not the full story. Miss Litzenberger's HOMEbody piece embraces themes such as identity, belonging, and place. It embodies the conversation the HOMEbody Symposium meant to start: how to shift focus towards creating a bright future for New Brunswick and making the province a place people want to call home.

Miss Litzenberger created **HOMEbody - Lessons in Prairie Living** over 4 years, starting in 2008. The show was first produced in Toronto in 2012. The success of the show and the resonance of its themes in eastern Canada brought Miss Litzenberger and the Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada together to talk about exploring these themes through a community engagement symposium in New Brunswick. Many New Brunswickers are all too familiar with the stories of friends and relatives leaving the province in search of jobs and a better life. Outmigration is part of the reality in this province; however, it's not the full story. Miss Litzenberger's HOMEbody piece embraces themes such as identity, belonging, and place. It embodies the conversation the HOMEbody Symposium meant to start: how to shift focus towards creating a bright future for New Brunswick and making the province a place people want to call home.



Shannon Litzenberger @shannonlitz May 6

We are always in conversation with the land. #homebodyNB @knowwhereyouare





THE SYMPOSIUM

On May 6th in Fredericton, the HOMEbody Symposium brought together 246 participants, representing a cross-section of post-secondary students from across the province and newcomers to New Brunswick. The symposium included presentations from by John Bragg, Chairman & Co-CEO Oxford Frozen Foods Ltd. President; Owner and Founder of Eastlink; Richard Saillant, Director of the Canadian Institute for Research on Public Policy and Public Administration; award winning Canadian author, Noah Richler and dancer choreographer Shannon Litzenberger.

Organizers felt it was important that students and newcomers hear from people of all sectors who were trying to do something in the province, and understand both their successes and failures. Twenty-two "Changemakers", including emerging businesses, place makers, newcomers and social ventures that are "making it" in New Brunswick were selected to share their stories. This helped shape the conversation on what can be achieved here at home. The day's dialogue culminated in challenging participants to "Create their Story" of why New Brunswick is a great place to live, work, innovate and create by identifying assets, key opportunities and possible projects and narratives on how to build the province's future.



HOMEbody Symposium's Objectives:

- Encourage a culture of pride and engagement in New Brunswick
- Promote participation in community and civic life
- Facilitate exchange that transcends age, language, culture and geography
- Increase delegates' personal and professional networks
- Increase knowledge of current opportunities and initiatives in N.B.
- Provide a vehicle for cross-sectorial networking and information sharing
- Demonstrate the power of the arts in exploring social and economic issues
- Facilitate the development of projects that make a difference in our community

HOMEbody Organizing Committee:

- Susan Chalmers-Gauvin, Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada
- Kathryn Hamer, ArtsLinkNB
- Kate Wallace, ArtsLinkNB
- Nadine Duguay, 21Inc.
- Adrienne O'Pray, NB Business Council
- Marilyn Luscombe, NB Community College



Founding Sponsor:



Grant Thornton

An instinct for growth™

Season Sponsor:

**MCINNES
COOPER**

HOMEbody Partners:

- Government of New Brunswick
- Brewer Foundation
- The Pond-Deshpande Centre
- NB Power
- Atlantic Lottery Corporation
- McInnes Cooper
- Canada Council for the Arts
- McCain
- City of Moncton

HOMEbody Supporters:

- City of Fredericton
- Picaroon's Brewery
- A.L. Gullison DKI
- 3+ Corporation
- Fredericton Chamber of Commerce
- Delta Beausejour

HOMEbody Student Partners:

- New Brunswick Community College
- Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick
- Université de Moncton
- Mount Allison University
- St-Thomas University
- NB College of Craft and Design
- McKenzie College School of Art & Design
- University of New Brunswick
- Ignite Fredericton
- Planet Hatch
- Multicultural Association of Fredericton Inc.
- Multicultural Association of the Greater Moncton Area
- 21 Inc.
- Irving Group



SETTING THE STAGE

The HOMEbody Symposium focused on starting a dialogue on possibilities in New Brunswick. Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada CEO, Susan Chalmers Gauvin, stressed the importance of pride of place and challenging the perceived negative attitudes that exist about New Brunswick being a “have-not” province.

“I co-founded Atlantic Ballet Theatre with a gentleman who moved here from Ukraine - Igor Dobrovolskiy - back in 2001. We had a vision of having an international company that would create original productions and tour the world. We were told that was simply NOT possible in New Brunswick. (...) That comment had nothing to do with opportunity, skill, our business plan, or the talent we had pulled together. It was about a perception of place, and that's the conversation we want to change.”

Fifteen years later, and many successes and accolades under its belt, the Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada has proven naysayers wrong. It is but one of the many ventures in this province that we simply do not hear enough about in the media and among our collective storytelling. Most New Brunswickers do not realize what is achievable here. The HOMEbody Symposium was thus a first step in getting the next generation of leaders aware of how they can carve their own paths, take risks, and create pride of place in our province.



Guest speakers, economist Richard Saillant (Director of the Canadian Institute for Research on Public Policy and Public Administration), corporate giant (CEO of Oxford Frozen Foods Ltd., Owner/Founder of Eastlink) and proud Atlantic Canadian Mr. John Bragg, award-winning author Noah Richler as well as Shannon Litzenberger, whose dance piece HOMEbody inspired the symposium, also helped set the tone for the day's discussions.

Mr. Richard Saillant talked about the real urgency of the economic situation in the province and how crucial it is to retain and recruit as many new workers possible, through immigration. Saillant also spoke about the need to challenge the status quo and stressed the fact that anyone, not just those in power, can become leaders. "If ever there was a time in New Brunswick's modern history where leadership from all corners of society was needed to face our challenges, this is it."

Mr. John Bragg inspired participants with his story of founding a multi-million dollar company in his small hometown of Oxford, NS a community of 300. His words of wisdom included finding ways to add value to everything one sets out to accomplish and not to listen to the many naysayers who may try to discourage you from achieving your dreams. "There is no substitute for hard work," he said.

Mr. Noah Richler offered a poetic reflection on our connection to the land and our notion of home, reminding us just how much our collective stories define us. Referencing a recent article in the *Globe and Mail*, Mr. Richler's words were poignant: "If a journalist writes a

portrait of Atlantic Canada as despairing, empty place without opportunity, and with its young people leaving, then it becomes our job to counter (...) We cannot let the story remain unchallenged. It is critical to remember just how powerful are the stories we choose to tell."

Mr. Noah Richler then interviewed Miss Shannon Litzenberger to discuss themes and inspiration behind her work on the HOMEbody piece, which participants got a chance to see later in the evening.



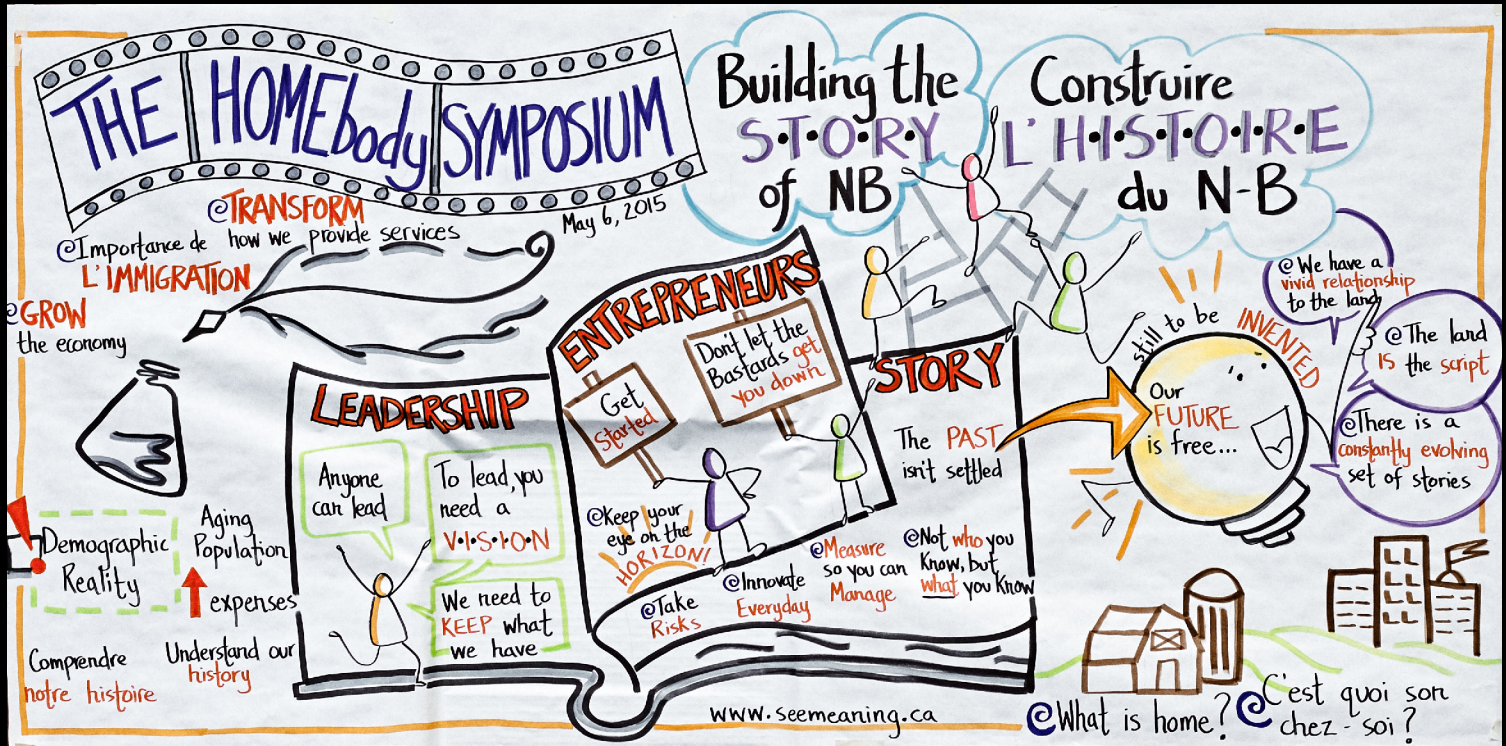
Krista Ross @KRossChamber May 6
John Bragg inspires@AtlanticBallet #homebodyNB.
"Don't be discouraged by the first roadblock you encounter." "If you don't start, you can't finish."



SYMPOSIUM HIGHLIGHTS



GRAPHIC RECORDING



Graphic recording of discussions from the HOMEbody Symposium by Corrie Melanson (See Meaning).

Click on the image to view the photo gallery.



THE POWER OF STORIES

Twenty-two Changemakers from various communities and across sectors in New Brunswick shared their stories about how they are contributing to positively shaping the new collective story for New Brunswick. The Changemakers had compelling and diverse personal stories, such as those shared by entrepreneur, filmmaker and movement maker Greg Hemmings, Acadian singer-songwriter Caroline Savoie, internationally recognized swordsmith Jake Powning, local food movement leader and founder of Real Food Connections Levi Lawrence, award-winning brewer and marketer extraordinaire Sean Dunbar, social enterprise and women in business specialist Jasmine Alam and Resson Aerospace Co-Founder Rishin Behl, who is helping revolutionize the agriculture industry with large scale computational, robotics and defense technologies.

Participants gathered around each Changemaker to hear his/her story, listening for themes such as pride of place, leadership, creativity and innovation. These themes were then discussed to gain insights and draw lessons that could be shared with and applied to all future leaders.





Lessons learned for creating the new collective story for New Brunswick revolved around embracing the uniqueness of the province and how its citizens are all “weirdly connected”. There are many advantages to being able to network and draw strength from a supportive, small community. In essence, “New Brunswick is everything that Toronto is not” and this is something to start celebrating and promoting. The participants stressed the importance of New Brunswick entrepreneurs taking risks, not being afraid to do things differently, as well as investing in their workers and giving back to their communities. Also, with the strong interconnectedness that prevails in New Brunswick comes the need to make all communities more welcoming to newcomers and fight negative stereotypes. Communities can only benefit by becoming more open to diversity, and there is a very urgent need to find creative ways to attract and retain more immigrants.



There was a definite feeling of renewed positivism and pride in the province at the end of this storytelling exercise, which helped participants take stock of opportunities and initiatives in NB that they had not previously been aware of as well as identify common lessons that transcend age, language, culture and geography.

The storytellers also seemed to have enjoyed meeting other like-minded entrepreneurs and leaders from across the province and sectors, hopefully making new connections that will continue to propel their successes.





PlanetHatch @Planethatch May 6

"Our mission is to strengthen the heart strings of everyone to this place." - Sean Dunbar of @picaroons
#HOMEbodyNB

Vanessa Paesani @vanessapaesaniMay 6

"I learned the difference between criticism and insults early on." Great insight from @caroosavoie at #HOMEbodyNB

Susan ChalmersGauvin @schalmersgauvinMay 6

Immigrants are not taking jobs. We need a welcoming community. We need to change the message. #homebodyNB

Town of Riverview @TownofRiverview May 6

NB's advantage is that we're the "good weird" #HOMEbodyNB

Christina Allain @ChristinaAllainMay 6

On New Brunswick: "We are everything Toronto is not. Maybe it can become our next license plate." #homebodyNB



STORIES FROM NB CHANGEMAKERS



Lori-Ann Cyr, Owner of Boutique Sucré Salé,
CEO at NordSud.org and Diversis Inc



Greg Hemmings, Founder/CEO Hemmings House,
Millennial Dream Project



Jimmy Therrien, Program Delivery Officer, The Gaia Project



Nancy Mathis, Founding Executive Director, G. Wallace F. McCain
Institute for Business Leadership



STORIES FROM NB CHANGEMAKERS



Fredéric Laforge, Founder & CCO
at Smithy Creative Group



Jeff Schnurr, Executive Director,
Community Forests International



Natacha Dugas, CEO PDG at Appfrogs



Levi Lawrence, President and Co-Owner,
Real Food Connections Ltd.



Mario Allain, President, Fundy Pros
Specialty Construction



Dr. Shelley Doucet, Jarislowsky Research Chair
in Interprofessional Patient-Centred Care



STORIES FROM NB CHANGEMAKERS



Moncef Lakouas, Student Leadership Movement



Melani Flanagan, Co-Founder, Kinder-Guardian



Sean Dunbar, Owner of Northhampton Brewery



Caroline Savoie, singer-songwriter



Rishin Behl, Co-Founder and CTO
Resson Aerospace Corp.



Mohamed Ali M'halla, Founder/Owner,
Blue Olive restaurant and international market



STORIES FROM NB CHANGEMAKERS



Jasmine Alam, Ph.D. Candidate in Business and Economics; micro-finance, women, and social entrepreneurship



Trevor MacAusland, Vice President of Business Development at Propel ICT



Jake Powning, Artist and Swordsmith



Marc Surette Ph.D., Biomedical Researcher, Université de Moncton



Alyson Brown, Co-Owner, Operator and Production Manager, Legacy Lane Fiber Mill



Michel Losier P. Eng., Program Director, PowerShift Atlantic, Customer and Community Engagement Director, New Brunswick Power Corporation



CREATING OUR STORY

"We're trying to spark a conversation, a dialogue, in the province of New Brunswick as a place of hope, innovation and opportunity. We hope those conversations grow from this one event into many, many conversations and projects and actions." Susan Chalmers-Gauvin in The Daily Gleaner

After hearing inspiring stories from Changemakers from across New Brunswick, participants were challenged to become changemakers themselves.

What is the story that is emerging for New Brunswick's future? What story do you want to tell?

Through an Open Space Forum, participants came forward with ideas on how to shape the future of the province. Eighteen collaborative projects emerged from many animated discussions around themes of community, pride of place, transformation, and entrepreneurship.

Discussions and project ideas that came forth included the following: making communities more welcoming to newcomers, promoting adult education and higher learning,





creating a more multidisciplinary approach to post-secondary education, finding ways to get employers to compete to attract top talent, promoting healthier lifestyles, extending NB Medicare to international students, creating centres for artists to connect, collaborate, create and stay in NB, having online community boards to help citizens become more aware of the opportunities that exist within their own communities, providing access to the Internet as a basic human right across the province, and launching a mobile coffee shop (think thank) that would help generate ideas for the future and link community leaders.

Participants proudly reported back on their project discussions at the end of the symposium. It was apparent that the HOMEbody Symposium was for many students and newcomers a first experience in finding their own leadership, having their ideas heard, and thus feeling empowered to take a more active role in community and civic life.



Jonathan Babin @tijnob May 6
Feeling motivated @homebodynb in Fredericton
great event!! #homebodyNB

Jeff Schnurr @pembatrees May 6
Amazing group of people connecting and building
the future of New Brunswick #homebodyNB



CREATING OUR STORY: PROJECT PITCHES

Have a look at the many project pitches that were inspired by discussions at the HOMEbody symposium. If you can make a contact or connection to support any of the projects, please contact the Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada or get in touch directly with the individual connected to the project.



David Boudreau,
Micro-entrepreneurs sans limites



Rachel Mathis,
Online community boards



Ryan LeBreton,
Extending NB Medicare to international students



Christine Roy,
Project "Halcyon" (Give artists a place to connect,
collaborate, create and stay in NB)



Saa Andrew Gbongbor,
Bilingualism and immigration



PROJECT PITCHES



Sara Taaffe,
Dismantling higher education
(Creating a more multidisciplinary approach to
post-secondary education)



Fredéric Laforge,
Accès gratuit à l'Internet en tant que droit humain



Adam Ouellette,
Technology rehab



Lina Haché,
Apiculture au N.-B.



Emelie Phillips,
Incarceration prevention



Nicola MacLeod,
Should I stay in NB or should I go



PROJECT PITCHES



Marc Gauvin,
Creating a healthier NB



Anika Lirette,
*Balance - Un dialogue constructif
sur la place publique*



Julia Ramirez,
Creating welcoming communities for immigrants



Nancy Mathis,
Expand "Our Top Talent" program



Daniel Gallant,
Make adult education more achievable



Ken Biddington,
Café mobile au N.-B.



PROJECT SUMMARIES

David Boudreau – David Boudreau is an Edmundston CCNB student in Technical Information for Community Services and leader of Student's Association. David's project seeks to generate an entrepreneurial spirit and culture at the high school level and stressing the positive values entrepreneurship engenders in people such as leadership and communication. In addition, the project hopes to bring this to the attention of the Minister of Education to help facilitate greater integration of the local entrepreneur community with educational system.

Rachel Mathis – Rachel Mathis is a Mount Allison Student who runs a company called *Invigorate Leaders*. Her company takes the top leaders from each grade level and puts them through a week of entrepreneurship training. Rachel's new project involves integrating the community on a broader level to ensure the public knows of entrepreneurial projects being offered in their area and how to access them. Rachel wants to create an online community board for people to post about different programs they have attended, and expand the conversation and knowledge of events in their area to help people connect in New Brunswick.

Ryan LeBreton – Ryan is the Mount Allison Student Union Vice President who wants to extend provincial health care to international student entering post secondary education. He believes this project would help increase the amount of immigrants that choose to study in New Brunswick and serve as a motivator for those same skilled laborers to establish themselves in New Brunswick after their studies, in addition to stimulating the economy.

Daniel Gallant – Daniel is Vice President for External Affairs at TCNB in Dieppe. He seeks to support back to school programs and continuing education for adults and those already in the workforce or seeking to improve their trade and knowledge. He wants to help create bursaries, scholarships, and assistance programs to encourage adults to take the leap into furthering their education.

Christine Roy – Christine is a student at McKenzie College in Moncton. An issue in New Brunswick communicated by Christine is the decreasing amount of artists in the province due to the lack of support network for those artists. "Project Halcyon" will be a central hub for visual artists, graphic artists, culinary artists, and artists of all types. It hopes to offer the tools to allow artists to broaden their networks, collaborate with others, and flourish individually.

Saa Andrew Gbongbor – Saa Andrew's project is about retaining people in New Brunswick to work, develop, and help the economy. New Brunswick needs to utilize the current citizens by not only appreciating bilingualism but also the value of multilingualism and immigration. By creating resources for immigrants to learn new languages and local culture we might encourage people to stay in the province.



PROJECT SUMMARIES

Fredéric Laforge – *Fredéric Laforge is the founder and CEO of Smithy Creative Group, a UX & UI design agency working with Fortune 500 clients for the past 5 years. Fredéric wants to promote the idea that internet access is a human right and that it should be available to all Canadians free of charge.*

Adam Ouellette – Adam is a student at CCNB college of Campbellton. Adam wants to encourage people to take a break from technology. He believes we have forgotten how to live without technology and wants to start an initiative to encourage people to shut down Wi-Fi for one day a year and to enjoy life outside of technology .

Lina Haché – Lina is a CCNB Edmundston student in Technical Leadership in Community Service. Lina believes schools in New Brunswick should offer opportunities to take a course in Apiculture (beekeeping), a course that is currently only offered in Quebec. She believes there's a great lack of bees in New Brunswick, which are vital to a healthy ecosystem, and that this industry can help to create jobs as well.

Ken Biddington – Ken is a Business teacher at CCNB Dieppe. His project is to have a mobile coffee shop going from town to town that would serve as a meeting place to share ideas and have discussions. It would be modeled after the old European social parlors from the 17th and 18th century. Technology would not be allowed other than for research and note taking to really allow participants to focus on the work. In addition, by being mobile, it would allow these ideas to spread and be shaped throughout the province.

Marc Gauvin – Marc is a business graduate from the University of New Brunswick. He believes that New Brunswick can decrease health costs through a focus on education and healthy, active living. He recommends that New Brunswick schools should teach nutrition classes throughout grade school, change gym class in schools to offer more variety, and reward younger students when they engage in healthy activities. For adults, tax incentives on healthy food could be offered, free cooking classes to teach healthy eating, and the promotion of the subject through social media channels. In addition to these changes, cities could close down urban centers on the weekends to promote biking and walking.

Anika Lirette – Anika is an artist based in Fredericton. Anika wants to promote the idea of balance in the community's zeitgeist, specifically in its public and social spaces. She presents as an example the introduction of the positive aspects in the reporting of bad news stories. Balance should also be found in the form of language by creating a newspaper where the English and French would be side by side, allowing both cultures to read and share in the same news stories.



PROJECT SUMMARIES

Julia Ramirez – Julia wants to change the dialogue about immigrants in New Brunswick. There are people who believe immigrants are stealing jobs and people who are unaware of how immigrants should be approached and what they provide to a community. New Brunswick should encourage immigrants and international students to stay in the province and help to improve the economy and place that first welcomed them. Citizens should be trained in understanding cultural differences and diversity to improve how immigrants are welcomed to the province, as well as demonstrate the positive effect immigration and immigrant businesses have on the community.

Sara Taffe – Sara is an intern at the Pond Deshpande Centre at UNB and recent graduate of Renaissance College. Sara's project involves questioning the current state of education and perhaps even dismantling it. She believes degrees should cultivate more innovative and practical skills for postgraduate life such as public speaking, communication, and collaboration. She challenges the idea that all people need a degree and believes multidisciplinary options should be far more present than they currently are and encouraged in the workforce.

Nancy Mathis – Nancy Mathis, Executive Director of the Wallace McCain Institute, wants to expand the existing reverse job fair for university graduates where they can present themselves to employers as exciting and reliable new candidates for employment. She believes New Brunswick businesses should be fighting to keep top talent here and wants to encourage employers to be ready to hire these fresh graduates instead of just browsing and letting them escape. In addition, if the businesses are well prepared with information about these candidates they'd be more inclined to hire. A part of her plan would be to increase the amount of co-ops in New Brunswick universities to encourage networking and experience for students so they are better suited to offer themselves as candidates..

Emelie Phillips – Emelie is an NBCC Miramichi student taking Criminal Justice. Emelie wants to improve our province by decreasing criminal activity through education and positive reinforcement instead of punishment. She believes education is key to the reduction of crime New Brunswick and that if education becomes more readily available and less inundated with stigma and institutionalized discrimination it will be a more attractive option. In addition, high schools should have students take a mandatory law class that teaches basic human rights and how incarceration works to help teens be more aware of their rights and responsibilities in society.

Nicola MacLeod – Nicola is the Business Intelligence Coordinator at Unite Fredericton. Her program wants to remove the guilt and stigma against leaving New Brunswick and instead focus that passion into pride and opportunity for the community. She believes that there is great opportunity in New Brunswick and that we need to support the self-starters who can in turn support those looking for local opportunities.



WHAT MAKES NB SO GREAT?



Stephanie Allen @sjma · May 6

Great experience at #HOMEbodyNB today. Nice to see so much collaboration & innovation in our small, WEIRD province. Proud to call NB home!

Nancy Martin @NaineMartin May 6

I feel like moving mountains! What a great day!
#homebodyNB

Diversis @Diversis May 6

Neobrunswickois par choix / NBer by choice #homebodynb

Noah Richler @knowwhereyouare May 6

#homebodyNB Young engineers, brewers, techies, farmers, activists - and a swordsmith! Loving this day.

Karina LeBlanc @KarinaMLeBlanc May 6

@AtlanticBallet #HOMEbody event has done more to return pride of #NB among our youth than anything else I've attended in some time.

Why live, work, create and innovate in New Brunswick?

Participants at the HOMEbody Symposium shared their thoughts and insights throughout the day. From our beautiful landscapes and proximity to nature, to how easy it is to meet people and create strong support networks, to our vibrant communities, there are many reasons New Brunswick is the place to be!



FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS

The HOMEbody Symposium

1 DAY
1 DANCER
246 PARTICIPANTS
22 CHANGEMAKERS
187 STUDENTS
37 NEWCOMERS
10+ COMMUNITIES
9+ COUNTRIES
17 PROJETS PRESENTED
NB

#HOMEbodyNB



The HOMEbody organizing team hopes that many more positive dialogues and discussions will continue! In order to facilitate the development of the project and ideas discussed during the symposium, we encourage you to stay connected.

Ways to Connect:

- Contribute to the HOMEbody blog. Post interesting news, ideas or information to help continue building pride in our province.
- Join the discussion in the HOMEbody Facebook group.
- Share photos of the event on the HOMEbody website or Facebook.
- Tweet about our province as a place of opportunity and innovation by using the #HOMEbodyNB hashtag.
- Connect with a project leader from the HOMEbody Symposium to offer advice or support.

Vanessa Paesani @vanessapaesani May 6
Great job inspiring a reframing of our stories in #NB with #HOMEbodyNB, @schalmersgauvin!



STU Students' Union @STU_SU May 6
Talking about the value of liberal arts with a nursing professor #homebodyNB #STU

