

Press Release

Date: January 9, 2014

Re: Northwood named one of Atlantic Canada's Employers for 2014



Halifax: We keep saying that Northwood is a great place to work. Now others are saying it as well. In 2013, Northwood was named one of Atlantic Canada's top 100 employers. In December, we are featured in the Chronicle Herald as one of Nova Scotia's top employers for 2014. Today, the Atlantic Business magazine named Northwood as one of Atlantic Canada's top employers for 2014; the second year in a row that Northwood has won this award.

Now entering its fifth year, *Atlantic Canada's Top Employers* is an annual competition organized by the editors of Canada's Top 100 Employers. This special designation recognizes the employers that lead their industries in offering exceptional places to work.

The award recognizes Northwood for its leadership in a number of key areas including:

- helping students and new grads gain on-the-job experience through co-op programs, summer student roles and paid internship opportunities
- also encouraging employees to continue their professional development with formal mentoring, a variety of in-house and online training programs and leadership training for high potential individuals
- supporting employees as they prepare for retirement with phased-in work options and contributions to a defined benefit or defined contribution pension plan, depending on employee group
- being an active member of the community. The organization and its employees support a variety of local, national and international charitable initiatives each year

The Atlantic Canada's Top Employer's list was selected from applicants to the national Canada's Top 100 Employers competition. Employers complete an extensive application process that included a detailed review of their operations and HR practices. Over 3,000 employers started this year's application process nationally. Eight key areas are examined: (1) Physical Workplace; (2) Work Atmosphere & Social; (3) Health, Financial & Family Benefits; (4) Vacation & Time Off; (5) Employee Communications; (6) Performance Management; (7) Training & Skills Development; and (8) Community Involvement.

"It was a lot of work," says Rick Kelly, President and CEO of Northwood. The application called for detailed information on a broad range of subjects, programs and initiatives geared to staff. "To be recognized two years in a row is quite an achievement. It speaks volumes about what we have in place to support our staff."

Award winners were announced in the January issue of the Atlantic Business magazine.