

Educator Distinction Award 2023

Nomination for Phil Davison

Phil Davison is a passionate advocate for lifelong literacy and personal development who consistently has the best interests of his learners at heart. His entire career has been focused on helping people reach their full potential via education and literacy. His kindness and compassion towards learners is extraordinary, and he consistently give people the gift of believing in themselves again. Phil changes lives.

Phil has dedicated his life to education. He holds a PhD in adult education (post-secondary leadership) from the University of New Brunswick, an MA (adult education), a BEd (secondary) from Dalhousie University, and a BSc from Acadia University.

He is a master teacher, facilitator, and researcher with deep insights into the fields of adult education and leadership development. Phil has over 25 years of experience working at home and abroad in the areas of community development, adult literacy, policy creation and evaluation, virtual learning, strategic partnership negotiation, and conflict resolution. During the past 3 years, Phil has been the facilitator of two adult literacy and education programs at PEI Literacy Alliance: Essential Employability Skills for the Health Sector, and Essential Skills for Atlantic Fisheries. Throughout these programs he has shown tremendous patience and grace towards all program participants. Phil truly sees the best in people, and he has cultivated his talent of helping people realize their true potential. Phil sees the sparkle in people, and he reflects that back to them in a way they can understand. Phil slows down, he really sees people, and he meets them where they are on their journey. He communicates with kindness and respect to everyone in his classrooms, making people feel valued and safe in his presence to speak their truths, and to step into their higher selves.

Phil is a compassionate and empathetic educator; he always makes time for those who need him. He is non-judgemental, and accepting of whatever pasts his students may have. He makes everyone feel that they have the potential to grow and become better versions of themselves. He helps people to realize and remember their strengths and gives them the courage and confidence to believe that their lives can be different, that they have the capacity to grow and change.

Phil is a friend to all he meets, and he inspires those around him to be a better person and become the best they can be.