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A Passion for Sustainability

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A team of NSCC students and faculty are currently in Carlow, Ireland for the third exchange of the Energy Efficiency in the Built Environment (EEBE) Project. Anna Keys (Construction Management student), Matt Bordian (Architectural Technology student), Sarah Mitchell (Construction Management student), Josh Murray (Electrical Engineering Technology student), Fin MacDonald (Energy Sustainability Engineering Technology student) and Cynthia Rogers (Mechanical Engineering Faculty) are working with groups from Holland College (PEI) and the Institute of Technology Carlow on a project developing energy efficient solutions in residential housing.

Because of his passion for sustainable living, NSCC student Fin MacDonald was also able to visit an eco-village during his free time in Ireland.



"The eco-village (located in a town called Cloughjordan) integrates permaculture, eco-logical design, green production, alternative energy, and community building practices. By doing so they create a modern community where it is easier to live sustainably", says Fin after attending a weekly information session and tour (Experience Day) in the village.

The village maintains an eco-logical structure by using methods such as a community farm, sustainable building measures, solar hot water systems, and is starting to develop several green businesses.


"Attending was a great experience for me because we don't have communities like this on the east coast of Canada. This type of community would have been similar to what my great grandparents would have lived in, minus of course the technology. It is fascinating that we are headed back in that direction. The sense of community is very special," says Fin.



Visit [Fin's blog](#), for more information on his experience in the Eco-Village.

More information on the EEBE program can be found through the [NSCC International blog](#).

The EEBE exchange program is a three year Canada/EU project funded by HRSDC and the European Union that sends students and faculty from NSCC, Holland College, IT Carlow (Ireland) and Hanze University of Applied Sciences (the Netherlands) on exchanges between the partner institutions.

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