

## Message from our Executive Director

The 2014-2015 school year was very successful for the NSISP. We welcomed over 1,000 international students from more than 30 countries to our province. Our Ambassador Program continued to grow, with almost every school now having at least one student Ambassador to support our international students. We look forward to our annual training camp with the new Ambassadors in August.

This summer we will also welcome a group of international student foreign correspondents to our Ambassador Camp. These students will continue with the NSISP in September and during their studies here they will be promote Nova Scotia as a destination to students in their own country. We look forward to sharing their stories through social media. Stay tuned for more information!

The NSISP added ten more schools to our Welcoming Schools initiative in 2014-15. This brings the number of Welcoming Schools to 24 across the province. The remaining schools continue to work towards their goals and hope to receive their Welcoming School plaque in the next academic year.

This summer sees the departure of our Finance Officer, Donnalee MacKenzie. Donnalee has been with the NSISP since 2002 and will be greatly missed both in the province and around the world. We look forward to welcoming Scott Bingham to our team. Scott worked in finance at one of our regional school boards and brings over eight years of experience to the office.

We are looking forward to a fantastic summer and an even more successful 2015-2016 school year.

Sincerely,




## "Hello family"

I was supposed to send you this like two months ago, but I never had time to finish it, and it was frustrating me, so I waited for when I had time, and now I finally do.

So...I caught myself looking at the photos on the board that I have in my room, and smiling... And I realized that I look at those photos every single day, at least once, and I feel so blessed and lucky that I got to spend six months of my life with you. Sometimes I think, "How things would be like if another family had chosen me?" or "what if I went to another country?" And it's weird if you stop and think about how destiny works. I could have gone to any other place, but I went to Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, Canada. And I met you. You are not my blood family, but blood is just blood. Blood doesn't mean anything if I love you like my real family. And I do. I feel like I've spent my whole life with you. I feel like I've grown up right beside the girls, and Shelby and Becca. Like real siblings. Thank you for choosing me and giving me the best six months of my life. I will never be able to repay you for all the things you did to me. I had a great time going to PEI, Castle Rock, Halifax and even just having family supper at home.

Now I have some confessions to make...

Confession number one: I used to hate salmon. And Becca actually knew about that... That's why I always put a lot of barbecue sauce on it. But I learned to like it. And in the last months, I didn't even need to put a lot of barbecue sauce. Now I eat salmon at home and my mom is proud of me.

Confession number two: I was not used to eat vegetables here in Brazil, but you ate it every day, so I also had to learn to like it, or just eat it even though I didn't really like it. Becca also knew about that.

Well, I think that's everything I can remember hahaha

Thank you for making my experience in Canada better, funnier and happier. Thank you for changing my life. I will never ever forget you.

I miss you. I love you all

Love,

Alicia Sachs



## Alumni updates

Brazilian student Fernando Gouveia Soares studied in Cape Breton in 2009 and 2010 and will be returning to the beautiful island in September 2015 to do his MBA at Cape Breton University.



Vanessa Fagard, Germany, studied in Cape Breton in 2013 returned this spring to spend five weeks with her host mom, two weeks doing an internship with her mom at the call center and two doing internship with a local businessman. Her boyfriend from Cape Breton moved to Germany last July with her and is currently working and taking German classes and will return next year to upgrade his courses at Memorial. Vanessa plans to return in June 2016 and they will both attend university in Nova Scotia.

*(pictured below—Vanessa with her natural mum and host mother)*



## Students in sport

In 2013-2014 the NSISP joined with the Nova Scotia School Athletic Federation (NSSAF) to help promote mutually shared goals and values with regard to student involvement in sport. Over 300 NSISP students were involved in NSSAF sports this year. A small group of students were presented with certificates at the annual NSSAF banquet in Halifax. In addition to school sport, many international students are involved in sports in the community. We are pleased to see the number of international students involved in sport increase and encourage students who enroll with NSISP to get involved in extra-curricular activities at any level.





## Graduation & Prom

