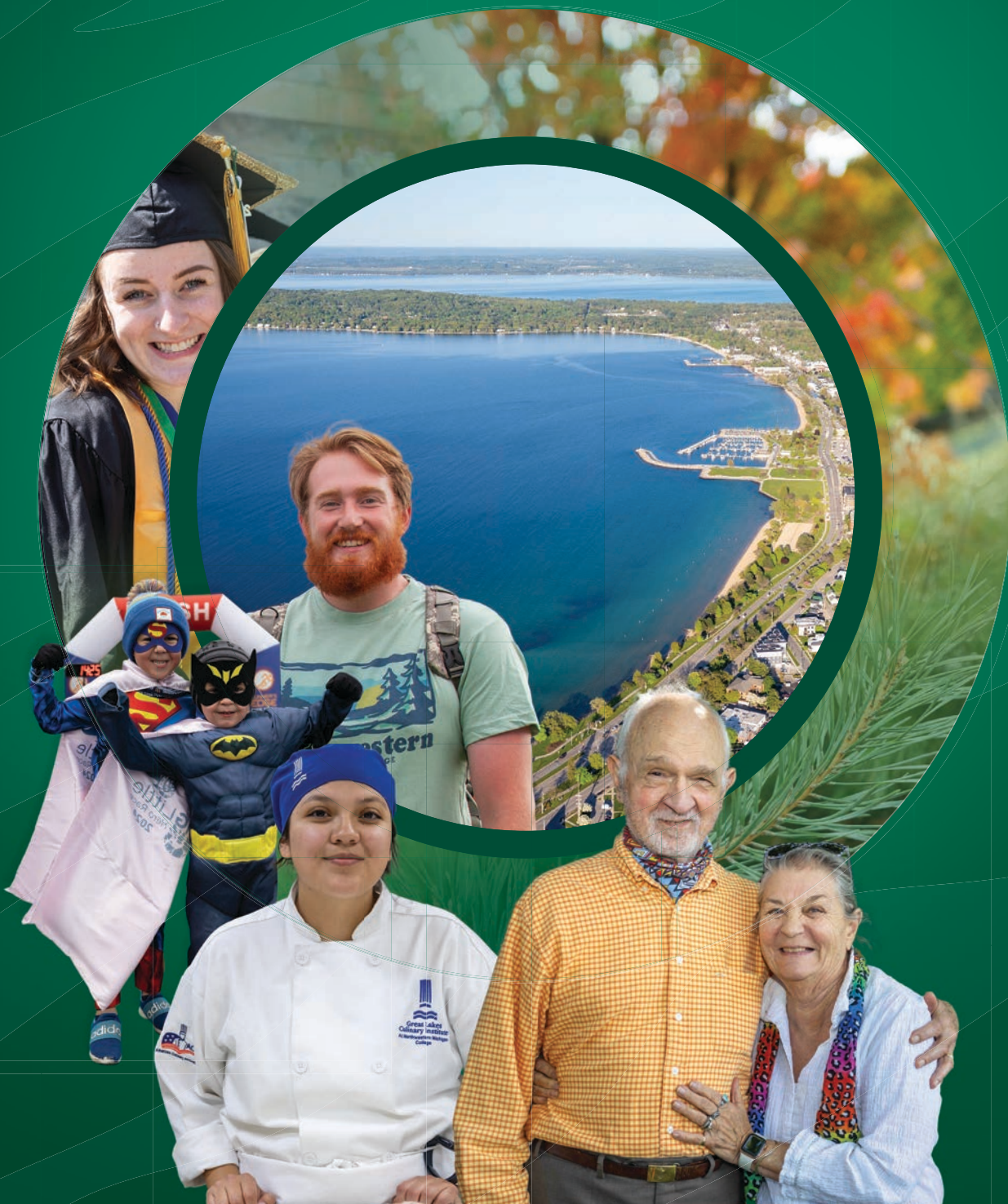


You are

NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE



REPORT

20
24

COMMUNITY



NMC

“When I got stationed here, one of the first things I did was look into education. It opens up more opportunities for me in the Coast Guard.”



Robin Phinzy, 2023 Computer Information Technology graduate and U.S. Coast Guard flight mechanic

Your home, your college, your future.

Dear Grand Traverse County residents,

Thank you for your steadfast support of Northwestern Michigan College. Together, we are building a vibrant, thriving community through education, innovation and responsive programs. In the following pages you will read stories of how NMC meets your priorities and enriches our region's quality of life. Discover how our collective efforts are shaping a brighter future for all of us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Nick Nissley'.

Nick Nissley, Ed.D., President, NMC



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collaborative leaders.

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You want to discover,
explore and connect.

“As a 40-year-old Navy veteran working on my third degree, this is the first education I’ve received that has led to work within the industry.”



Roger Baty, current Marine Technology student

You want jobs that offer a future and pay well.

Traditional job security is hard to find today, but you can create your own with education and skill development.

Traverse City resident Bryan Linck did it through NMC’s Aviation program.

“Aviation is just an incredible career that offers unlimited opportunities for learning, growth and earning potential,” said Linck, a 2020 graduate. Last year, he advanced to captain with Republic Airways, which will more than triple his starting salary.

Interlochen resident Cassidy Gray did it through the Dental Assistant program. For her internship, she worked at two local dental offices. Both wanted to hire her. She was employed before finishing her associate degree last May.

“A lot of people don’t want to do four years; they just want to get in and out with a good-paying job. So I think that really hits the spot. Less school for good pay,” Gray said.

Luis Uribe did it through the Automotive Technology program.

Like Gray, Uribe landed his job as a technician at a local Traverse City dealership before he graduated.

ASSOCIATE DEGREE
\$330K in higher lifetime earnings vs. high school diploma

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2023



“I’m excited to make more money than I ever thought I was going to.”

Luis Uribe, 2023 Automotive Technology graduate



Earning a certificate or associate degree more than doubles median annual wages in Michigan.

Certificate/associate degree: **\$44,200**

High school diploma: **\$20,200**

mischooldata.org, 2023

MOST IN-DEMAND JOBS IN MICHIGAN

Accountants
Computer and information systems managers
Construction managers
Nurses
Software developers

NMC GRADUATES RECEIVE

\$1.41 return for every \$1 spent on tuition



Cassidy Gray



David Hipolito



Bryan Linck



You value life Up North.

Student study reveals microplastics in Boardman River

Last year, when NMC biology instructor Nick Roster's students sampled two dozen sites in the Boardman River, they discovered plastic particles so small they can enter the bloodstream in all but one.

Their results caught attention from media, environmental leaders and others. Keeping Grand Traverse Bay clean and healthy, which also affects recreation and tourism, means monitoring rivers and streams that feed it. The Boardman is among the biggest, and a top 10 trout stream.

"That local data could be really impactful for making real change in our communities," said Heather Smith, Waterkeeper for the Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay.

For instance, do we need to filter drinking water? Reconsider stormwater systems or trash pickup? NMC's data will contribute to better decisions.



**They're being
real scientists.**

**My students are
already trying to
make a difference
in Traverse City
and beyond.**



Nick Roster,
NMC biology instructor,
2024 Educator of the Year,
Northern Michigan Environmental
Action Council
Hear from Nick





NMC offers the only bachelor's degree in Marine Technology in the nation.

Adyn McHugh was thrilled to find the perfect bachelor's degree program just a short way from home: NMC's Marine Technology program. It combines hands-on learning with outstanding job prospects.

"We have amazing field courses," said McHugh, who specializes in processing the data gathered on NMC's research vessel *Northwestern*. "I think of it as kind of a scavenger hunt. Especially when you're looking for things. We just did an assignment with a shipwreck in it."

Find out more at nmc.edu/marine

"NMC's Marine Tech has never failed for a graduate to have a job."

"New jobs are being created all the time, and those jobs are well over six figures."

Adyn McHugh, current 3rd year NMC student.

"Drones are an efficient and cost-effective way to improve outage response and right-of-way maintenance."

Cherryland Electric Cooperative

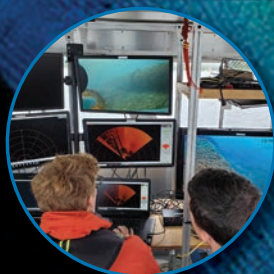


Small towns, farm fields and orchards.

NMC's Uncrewed Aerial Systems (UAS) program helps maintain the prized rural character of Up North. Since 2018, Cherryland Electric Cooperative has used drones to inspect the lines that 36,000 rural customers rely on. Between 2023 and 2024, the number of poles NMC inspected doubled.

Drones are also an important 21st century agriculture tool for applications like fertilization as well as imaging and inspection. Since 2017 Michigan State University students have traveled to NMC's UAS training facility in Yuba where they get hands-on experience that leads to a UAS in agriculture certificate.

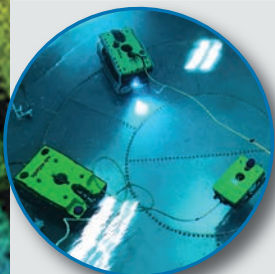
Only 15% of the Great Lakes are mapped at high density.



NMC's research vessel *Northwestern*

To better understand issues like changing water levels and fish populations,

NMC is leading a project to map 100% of the lakebed. nmc.edu/lakebed



“Many NMC grads select Munson to start their nursing career. We consistently witness the exceptional skills and knowledge they bring to their roles.”



Tami Putney, Munson Medical Center Chief Nursing Officer; 2002 ADN graduate

You want good health care nearby.

Confidence in your caregivers isn't a nice-to-have. It's a must-have.

Among health care professionals, nurses spend the most time with patients. In northern Michigan, more nurses arrive at a patient's side via NMC than any other college—whether that be in the hospital, an urgent care, a nursing home or elsewhere.

Take Aliyah Nowlin. She started at NMC in 2020 as a dual-enrolled high school student, then earned her associate degree and RN license in 2023. This year she was the first graduate of a new, accelerated bachelor's degree in nursing (BSN) program through NMC's partnership with Davenport University. She estimates that the partnership, which includes concurrent NMC-Davenport classes, saved her more than \$3,000.



“I'm 21 and have a lifetime of nursing ahead of me.”

Aliyah Nowlin, RN, BSN,
Munson Medical Center stroke unit

Health care careers start at NMC

Dental Assistants

Nursing:

Practical nurses (PNs)

Licensed practical nurses (LPNs)

Associate degree (ADNs)

Bachelor of science (BSNs)
(through Davenport University)

Medical billers and coders

Physician Assistants
(through GVSU at the University Center)

Surgical Technologists



Community dental care

EACH YEAR, NMC DENTAL ASSISTANT STUDENTS PROVIDE:

Free X-rays for up to 96 local residents, valued at \$16,000.

More than 7,200 hours of patient care through local internships.

Skilled, proficient patient care

NMC exceeds Michigan and U.S. average pass rates on licensing

Registered Dental Assistant clinical exam

2024: 100% NMC

RN license exam (NCLEX)

2024: 97% NMC



160 students are in NMC's pre-nursing pipeline.



Nursing



Surgical Technology



Dental Assistant



“We had a need for learning and development,
and NMC is an expert in that space.”

Tony Chipkewich, Sara Lee Frozen Bakery



You value education and training locally.

Employers as diverse as Sara Lee Frozen Bakery and the Grand Traverse Sheriff's Office both turned to NMC for training.

Ask any area business owner what their top priority is, and you'll hear the same thing—finding and retaining staff. So when Sara Lee Frozen Bakery decided to invest in employee training, finding the right provider was key. They turned to NMC.

Sara Lee Human Resources director Tony Chipkewich said NMC Extended Education & Training provided “a customized learning solution” to meet the precise needs of two distinct groups at its operations in Traverse City.

The training began this year and Chipkewich said discussions have already started about extending it to additional employees at other Sara Lee locations nationwide.



ACCELERATING HIGH-QUALITY TRAINING TO STRENGTHEN PUBLIC SAFETY

Since Fall 2023

6 new Grand Traverse County sheriff's deputies

3 new Traverse City police officers

“NMC creates a potential
police officer for us in
literally half the time.”

Grand Traverse County Sheriff Mike Shea
NMC Class of 2005

SINCE 2008, NMC HAS PROVIDED

\$9.1 million in training, creating
925 jobs at more than
30 Grand Traverse employers

INCLUDING:

Manufacturers

BRITTEN INC.
CENTURY EXTRUSION
CENTURY INC.
COHERENT, INC. (ELECTRO OPTICS, INC.)
EAR FAB AMERICAS INC.
GREAT LAKES STAINLESS
HAYES MANUFACTURING
JANTEC INC.
PLASCON INC.
RJG INC.
SKILLED MANUFACTURING INC.
TENTCRAFT INC.

Health care

CEDAR RUN EYE CENTER
NORTHWEST MICHIGAN SURGERY CENTER, LLC
SUPERIOR PHYSICAL THERAPY

Food processing

CULTURED FERMENTS COMPANY LLC
FOOD FOR THOUGHT
MATERNE NORTH AMERICA CORP.
SHORELINE FRUIT
TAMARACK HOLDINGS

Professional services

ADAPTIVE COUNSELING AND
CASE MANAGEMENT, LLC
EFULFILLMENT SERVICE
GRAND TRAVERSE SENIOR LIVING LLC
HAGERTY
IMAGE 360
NAVEEGO INC./AUNALYTICS INC.

Construction/contracting

ELMER'S CRANE AND DOZER, INC.
ISENHART ELECTRIC LLC
SHORELINE POWER SERVICES
SPRINGFIELD INC.
STRATA DESIGN



Early College
Traverse City
West High School



Michigan Reconnect
Hannah Ramsby -
Culinary



Dual Enrollment
Luke Bobrowski
St. Francis High School
graduate, current NMC student

Nearby + affordable = value

Early College:

Start college in high school,
earn an associate degree in
one year.

Dual Enrollment:

Earn transferable college
credits in high school.

**Community College
Guarantee:**

Free tuition and fees for
class of 2024 high school
graduates and beyond
who are living in-district
(Grand Traverse County)
and attending full time.

Michigan Reconnect:

Free tuition and fees
for Michigan residents 21+
who don't already have a
certificate or degree.

Transferable Credits:

NMC's agreements with four-year
schools mean you can be sure
your credits go where you go.

**\$1.5 million in
NMC donor-funded
scholarships is
available annually**

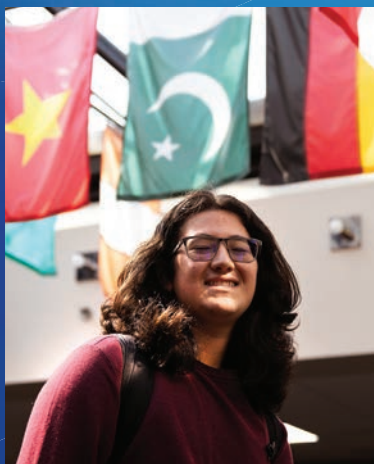


“Northwestern Michigan College is a rare community college that has an academic museum, the Dennos Museum Center.”

The New York Times



You want to discover, explore and connect.



Right across the street from his high school, whole new worlds open up for Arthur Lijewski-Lee.

The Traverse City Central junior is a two-time participant in Academic WorldQuest, a quiz show style competition on international politics, geography, economics, history and culture sponsored by NMC's International Affairs Forum.

“It tickles my brain in the way that things that really interest you do,” said Lijewski-Lee, 16, whose team will return for the 11th annual competition next February. Schools including Grand Traverse Academy, Interlochen Arts Academy, St. Francis High School and Traverse City West typically compete too.

Lijewski-Lee is also an Early College student, now taking three classes at NMC. He'll earn his associate degree a year after his high school diploma. With a PhD in his future, he's glad for the head start.

“The people at NMC, they're interested, engaged. That environment is more conducive to learning. It's really nice to just be here.”

“I get to take higher level classes, which I really appreciate.”

Arthur Lijewski-Lee

10th in the U.S. for short-term study abroad

Students have traveled to 25 countries since 2013. All trips provide experiential learning for academic credit.



Lifelong learning **SERVING AGES 4-99**

IN THE 2023-24 FISCAL YEAR,
NMC'S PUBLIC PROGRAMS SERVED:

**Extended
Education** **2,927**
students

**College
for Kids** **738**
students

**Lobdell's
Teaching
Restaurant** **1,939**
guests

**Dennos
Museum
Center** **1,104**
K-12 students
took free tours

Credentialed as
Certified Autism
Center

4,281
guests visited
on 8 free admission
days

**International
Affairs Forum** **3,459**
patrons at 15 events

WNMC Radio **1.7**
90.7 FM,
streaming
at wnmc.org **75**
million listener hours
community volunteers



Extended Education



Rogers Observatory



NMC Jazz Band



52 percent of students who earned a bachelor's degree at a Michigan 4-year institution started at a community college.



Michigan Transfer Network

Your confidence is vital.

More Grand Traverse County high school graduates attend NMC than any other single college.

From NMC they can and do go anywhere, with confidence, thanks to NMC's participation in the Michigan Transfer Agreement as well as articulation agreements with specific universities.



TCC > NMC > UM > UPENN

Through dual enrollment, Jami Chung earned both her associate degree and high school diploma in 2014. Thanks to that head start, Jami Chung graduated from U-M in just three years. She then went on to earn both a master's degree and law degree and now practices law in New York City.

Traverse City Central High School
Northwestern Michigan College
University of Michigan
University of Pennsylvania



TCW > NMC > UM > UCHICAGO

At NMC, multiple instructors directed Alex Brace towards a STEM career. He earned his associate degree in 2017 and bachelor's degree in computer science from U-M in 2020. In 2021, he was part of a team that won the Nobel Prize of supercomputing for research into COVID. He's now completing his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago.

Traverse City West High School
Northwestern Michigan College
University of Michigan
University of Chicago

3,255
STUDENTS ENROLLED
Fall 2024 (NMC)



640
GRADUATES
Spring 2024 (NMC)



76
VETERANS
Fall 2024 (NMC)

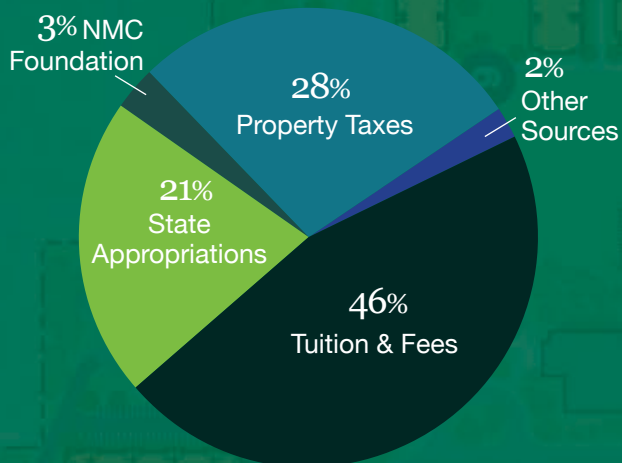




CAMPUS MASTER PLAN

- **2024-25**
Aviation hangar expansion;
Front Street campus conversion
to geothermal system
- **2025-26**
Renovation of Osterlin Building
into one-stop Student Services hub
- **2025-26**
Front Street campus space
optimization, including relocating
University Center partners
- **2027-28**
Build new apartments
- **2028-29**
Replace East Hall
- **2030-31**
Build new dorm

NMC IS FUNDED BY:



More information: nmc.edu/transparency



NEW HANGAR, HOUSING AND MORE: Intentional campus growth planned through 2034

In October, NMC broke ground on a new aviation hangar that will allow the college to double its airplane fleet. More planes mean more students can get off the two-year waiting list – first into a cockpit, then into a job with a six-figure salary.

The hangar is the first project in NMC Thrive, a 10-year campus master plan.

The plan also prioritizes new housing, since existing housing is at capacity not just on campus, but in the community.

“Every student who can live on
campus reduces the pressure on
Traverse City’s housing market.”

NMC President Nick Nissley



Listening to the community

To ensure academic programs stay on the leading edge, NMC draws upon the expert input of more than

500 COMMUNITY MEMBERS
who serve on program advisory boards.



.....
Including business owners like Stephanie Lee Wiitala, of Sugar2Salt, physicians and nurses, law enforcement, retired military officers and senior citizens.

You want innovative, collaborative leaders.

With support from the Home Builders Association of Northwest Michigan, NMC is working to build more homes, faster.

By adding 3D wall printing technology to its construction technology curriculum next year, NMC plans to revolutionize the regional construction industry, address its dire housing shortage and give graduates a competitive edge in employment simultaneously.

A 3D concrete printed home can be completed in less than half the time of a traditionally-built home – 90 days versus six to nine months. It's also less labor-intensive and more sustainable. All those factors translate into lower prices. That's good news given the region's 31,000-unit housing gap, with lower priced housing in the highest demand.

"3D printing is the future of affordable homes," NMC Construction Technology Coordinator Carolyn Andrews said in a proposal that won \$116,000 in September from regional grantmaker Impact 100 to help purchase the printing equipment.



NMC Board of Trustees

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Andrew K. Robitshek — Vice Chair
Kenneth E. Warner — Treasurer
Chris M. Bott — Secretary
Douglas S. Bishop
Bill F. Marsh
Kennard R. Weaver



LEADING DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGION'S NEW BLUE ECONOMY

A fall 2025 groundbreaking is planned for the Freshwater Research and Innovation Center (FRIC), a partnership between NMC, Discovery Pier, Traverse Connect, 20 Fathoms and Michigan Technological University on West Bay.



“The Center will drive new blue economy growth, creating high-value, year-round jobs in freshwater and marine technologies.”

NMC Vice President for Strategic Initiatives Jason Slade



Foundation

Trustee Ken Warner and
NMC Foundation Board
Chair Pat Warner



Office of Possibilities

AquaHacking event



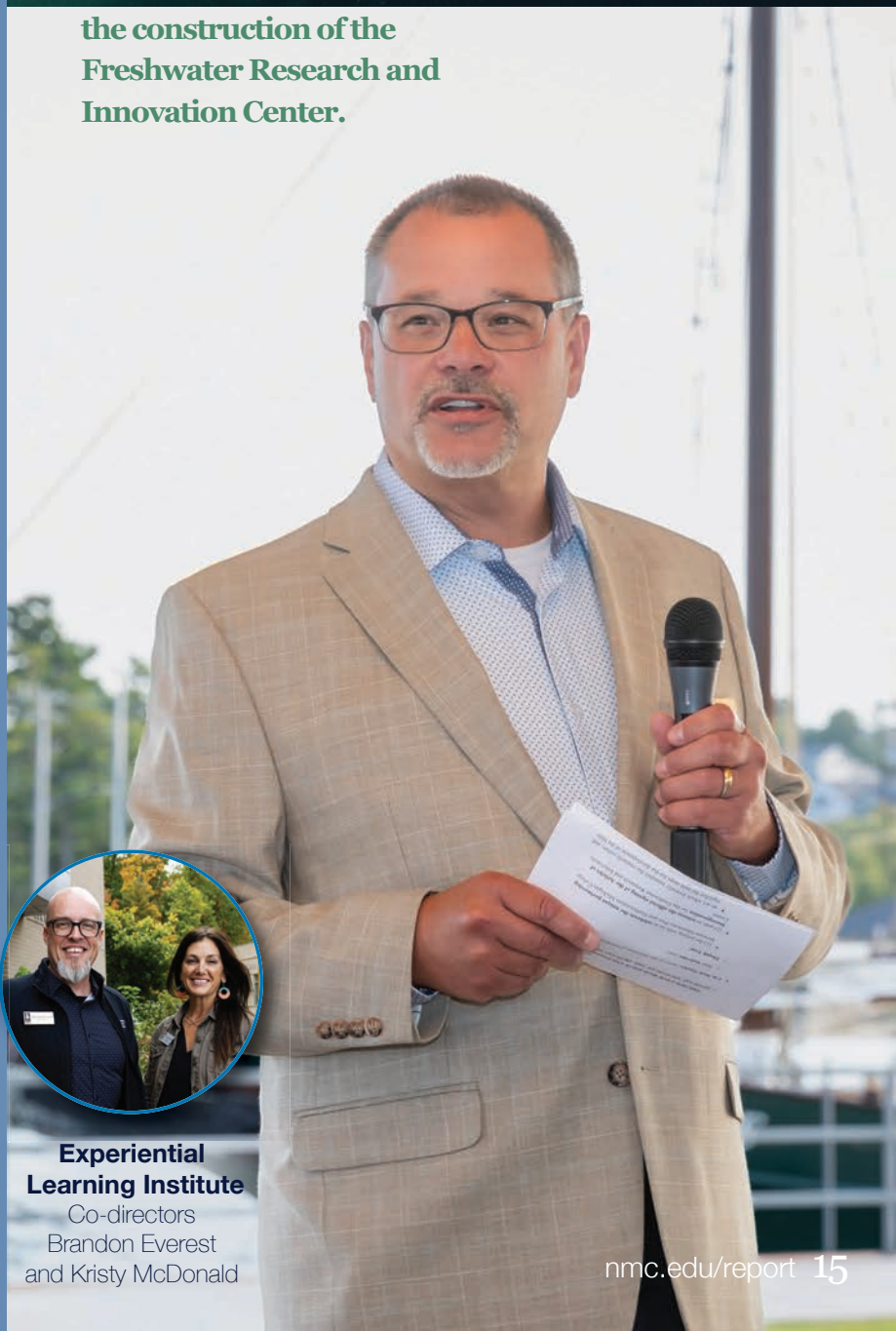
Experiential Learning Institute

Co-directors
Brandon Everest
and Kristy McDonald



**The state of Michigan has
awarded \$15 million to**

**the construction of the
Freshwater Research and
Innovation Center.**



1951



2024



BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE TOGETHER

NMC is proud to be a community cornerstone in Grand Traverse County. We provide high-value, accessible education that equips students for success. We're training the next generation of skilled workers, professionals and innovative leaders who will drive our region's economy and enhance our quality of life.

We're here for you, too.

75th anniversary
2026-27

Your support is an investment in the vibrant community we are all fortunate to enjoy today and years into the future.



NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY NOTICE

Northwestern Michigan College does not discriminate in admission, campus activities, education, employment, housing, public accommodation or public service on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, gender identity/expression, handicap, height, marital or familial status, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, service in the military, veteran's status, weight, or any other legally protected status under federal, state, or local law. nmc.edu/nondiscrimination





**Northwestern
Michigan College**

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Traverse City, Michigan 49686

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Traverse City, MI
Permit No. 170

REPORT

**20
24**

COMMUNITY

**You are
part of NMC.**

Thank you, Grand Traverse County,
for 73 years of support.

ACME
BLAIR
EAST BAY
FIFE LAKE
GARFIELD
GRANT
GREEN LAKE
KINGSLEY
LONG LAKE
MAYFIELD
PARADISE
PENINSULA
TRAVERSE CITY
UNION
WHITEWATER

