

2026 Q3 NEWSLETTER

July, 2026

ATLANTICMASONRYINSTITUTE.COM



New Brunswick Competition Training Day participants

New Brunswick Competition Training

On January 15th, in partnership with the Government of New Brunswick's Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, AMI hosted a training day at Moncton High School for teachers and students from across the province. The training provided participants with an opportunity to prepare for the secondary competition hosted by Skills Canada New Brunswick.

AMI was pleased to welcome two experienced bricklayers from Acadia Bricklayers, who shared their expertise and provided hands-on instruction to both students and teachers. Their guidance helped participants develop the skills and confidence needed for the upcoming competition.

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more from NB Competition Training Day

ATLANTIC MASONRY INSTITUTE
SUITE 020-238A BROWNLOW AVE. DARTMOUTH, NS
B3B 2B4
902-410-1469
atlanticmasonryinstitute.com

WHEN FIRE STRIKES, WALLS MATTER.

Concrete block firewalls help stop small fires from becoming community disasters.

Concrete masonry firewalls contain fire to the area of origin, providing critical protection for people, communities, first responders, and the property we all rely on.



PROTECTION THAT MATTERS MOST



PROTECT YOUR PEOPLE

- ✓ Contain fire and smoke in the area of origin to protect occupants and provide safe evacuation.
- ✓ Preserve evacuation routes and provide safer egress
- ✓ Limit displacement of residents and sustain rental housing supply



PROTECT COMMUNITIES

- ✓ Reduce damage to neighbouring units and common areas
- ✓ Protect municipal investments and reduce rebuilding costs
- ✓ Preserve housing stock and reduce the need for emergency relocation



PROTECT FIRST RESPONDERS

- ✓ Fire-resistant walls slow fire spread and provide valuable time to operate safely.
- ✓ Fire-resistance slows fire growth and spread
- ✓ Creates safer operating conditions and improves outcomes



PROTECT PROPERTY

- ✓ Concrete block firewalls help stop small fires from becoming large-scale losses.
- ✓ Reduce property damage
- ✓ Lower insurance losses
- ✓ Faster return to occupancy

WHY CONCRETE BLOCK FIREWALLS?

NONCOMBUSTIBLE BY NATURE

Concrete masonry is made from natural materials and does not contribute fuel to a fire.

PROVEN FIRE RESISTANCE

Fire-resistance ratings can be established through recognized testing or calculation methods in the National Building Code of Canada based on unit properties and wall construction.

DURABLE PROTECTION

Concrete block walls are strong and impact resistant—able to withstand the demands of daily use while maintaining their fire-resistance performance.

LONG-TERM COMMUNITY ASSET

Concrete masonry firewalls continue protecting buildings for decades with minimal maintenance.

Compartmentation is one of the most important fire safety strategies in multi-residential construction.

— NATIONAL BUILDING CODE OF CANADA

DESIGNED FOR MODERN MULTI-RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

Designers can use the NBC calculation methods based on equivalent thickness and concrete type, providing flexibility while ensuring code-compliant fire resistance. with 2-4 hours of burn resistance.



A SAFER COMMUNITY STARTS WITH BETTER COMPARTMENTATION.

The question is not whether a fire will occur.

The question is: **HOW FAR WILL IT SPREAD?**



Learn more about concrete block firewalls and fire safety at ccmpa.ca



New Brunswick Secondary Competition

Save the Date

The 2026 Atlantic Masonry Institute's Annual General Meeting will be November 3 - 4, 2026 at the Westin Nova Scotian.

Registration will begin in September and will include information on the guest speakers.

Support the conference success by becoming a sponsor! More details to follow.

DTI Training

Andrew Smith, of the Canada Masonry Design Centre, delivered technical training on May 1st to New Brunswick's Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (DTI). Working with DTI's Buildings team, he provided a full-day introductory course on masonry structures and systems. The session helped participants gain a better understanding of masonry, identify where it can be used effectively, and explore how masonry is often overdesigned in DTI projects throughout New Brunswick.

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NB Secondary Competition



For the second year in a row, Skills Canada New Brunswick successfully hosted a high school bricklaying competition. This year featured three competitors from across the province who showcased their impressive skills and craftsmanship. We are encouraged by the competition's growth and are excited to see it expand even further in the future.

Skills Canada NB Womens Empowerment

Skills Canada New Brunswick, in partnership with the Women's Equality Branch, hosted an Empowerment Day for girls and gender-diverse students. The event connected more than 2,000 participants with local opportunities, while highlighting employers, career pathways, and community supports. It brought together students, job seekers, industry professionals, and organizations committed to building a more inclusive workforce.

AMI hosted a bricklaying try-a-trade booth at the event, (wo)manned by Althea Guest of Acadia Bricklayers and Ashley Ritchie of NBCC. The booth provided participants with a hands-on introduction to the bricklaying trade and an opportunity to learn more about careers in the masonry industry.



PEI Train-the-Trainer

The high school program continues to expand across Prince Edward Island, with Three Oaks Senior High and École Sur-Mer from Summerside PEI adding bricklaying into their curriculum. To support this growth, AMI hosted a two-day training program for skilled trades teachers from both schools, with expert instruction provided by West Masonry.

NSCC and Skills Canada Career Showcases

AMI participated in the NSCC and Skills Canada Career Showcases at NSCC's Ivany Campus in Dartmouth, Kingstec Campus in Kentville, and Sydney Waterfront Campus in Sydney, where we hosted a bricklaying try-a-trade activity. At the Ivany Campus, two bricklayers from Darim Masonry worked with students during the event. At the Kingstec Campus, bricklayers from Reddick Brothers led the activity, while bricklayers from Brimac Masonry supported students at the Sydney Waterfront Campus.

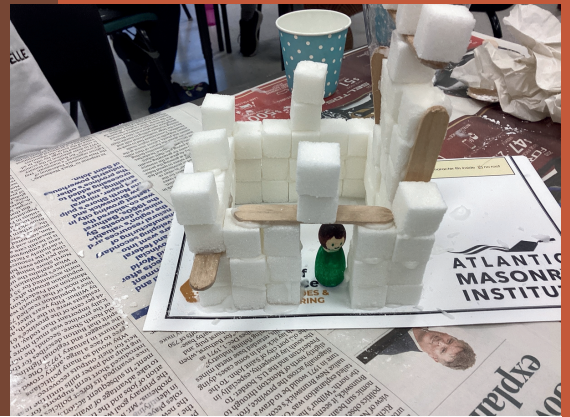


PEI Train-the-Trainer



Sugar Shack

As always, this was an incredible event! The Centre of Excellence for Skilled Trades and Manufacturing, in partnership with the Atlantic Masonry Institute, connected with more than 125 Grade 3–5 classrooms across all four school districts through Sugar Shack: A Masonry Experience. The event reached 1,788 students in English classrooms and 993 students in French Immersion classrooms. Now in its third year, the program includes bricklaying trade education led by Andrew Smith of the Canada Masonry Design Centre (CMDc), inspiring students to explore skilled trades in an engaging and interactive way.



Mixing Mortar

Materials Needed:

- ❑ 1 teaspoon / spoon
- ❑ Icing sugar
- ❑ Dixie cup, ½ filled with water
- ❑ 1 Empty Dixie Cup
- ❑ Large popsicle stick

Mortar Recipe

3 teaspoons of
icing sugar

+ 1 teaspoon of
water

Stir until mixed
together and
smooth

NOTE: Should look like
white glue



New Staff in AMI Office

Lisa MacDougall has joined us in the new position of Administrative and Community Outreach Coordinator. Lisa brings a breadth of experience, which includes career development, administration, and over 17 years at NSCC, most recently as Manager, Student Services for Akerley and IT Campuses. Now semi-retired, she views AMI as an exciting opportunity to indulge her passion for helping people discover a career in trades, while finding an outlet for her need to organize things (events, paperwork, office supplies...). Lisa is looking forward to meeting our members and providing support, answers, or just a smile and laugh. Her regular hours will be Tues/Wed/Thurs 8:30 to 4:30. You can reach her at 902-410-1469 or ami@canadamasonrycentre.com.



STEP/PEMS Summer Camp

On July 22, bricklaying with AMI was featured as one of the five sessions in the STEP Summer Camps (Skilled Trades Exploration Program) for students in Grades 6-8. The camp was organized by MAP Strategic Workforce Services, in partnership with the Carpenter Millright College in Saint John, New Brunswick.

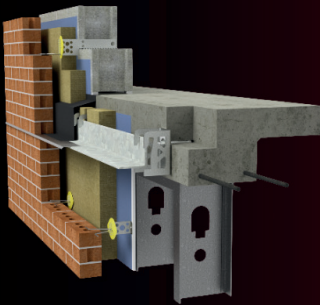
Working alongside Andrew Smith and three amazing instructors, Ashley Ritchie (NBCC), Joe Pascon (Wildwood Masonry) and Denny Vautour (BAC Local 8), 16 campers enthusiastically completed two construction projects over the course of day. AMI provided the materials, instructions, and project set up, helping to create an engaging and hands-on learning experience for everyone involved. The day was a great success, and everyone had a fantastic time. AMI is proud to support initiatives like STEP, that inspire young people to explore rewarding careers in the skilled trades.



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✉ engineering@ferocorp.com

☎ 1-877-703-4463

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Atlantic Brick and Stone
Atwill-Morin
Beamish Masonry Construction
Brimac Masonry Ltd.
Capital Caulking
Darim Masonry Limited
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Jones Masonry Ltd.
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Maconnerie Rainville & Freres Inc.
Masontech Inc.
MCM Bricklayers
Miller Masonry Ltd.
MJR Masonry
Premium Caulking Inc.
Reddick Bros Masonry Ltd.
Vintage Brick and Stone
West Masonry Ltd.
Wildwood Masonry Ltd.

Labour

Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local #1 (NFLD)
Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local #1 (NS)
Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local #1 (PEI)
Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local #8 (NB)

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