



Career Development

Applied learning

Joseph Kvitek, maintenance supervisor with Halifax Harbour Bridges in Dartmouth, had high expectations for the *Certificate in Skills for New Managers*. The Saint Mary's Executive and Professional Development program, he says, exceeded those expectations.

"The content of the courses was outstanding, the instructors were very professional and knowledgeable, and the atmosphere was excellent," says Joseph. "It was a great place to learn new skills and further develop my career."

The learning was enhanced by the instructors and their approach, he notes. "They were welcoming and personable. They were exceptionally knowledgeable and made the learning experience interesting."

So did the participants. Learning at SMU is about much more than sitting back while someone drones on. It's about interactivity. It's about engagement. It's about learning from each other.

"I met a great group of professionals from different companies," says Joseph. "We learned from each other and we shared our skills."

He points to his leadership skills course as a prime example of team learning. "I realized that not every person on our working team has the same skill set or the same personality. This understanding helped me to approach each individual differently while working towards the same goal."

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For Joseph, learning doesn't end when the course is over. "Learning new skills is life-long, and it should never stop," he says. "But it's about more than the knowledge; it's also about the application of that knowledge. You need to put into practice what you've learned – so you can grow and your organization can become even better."