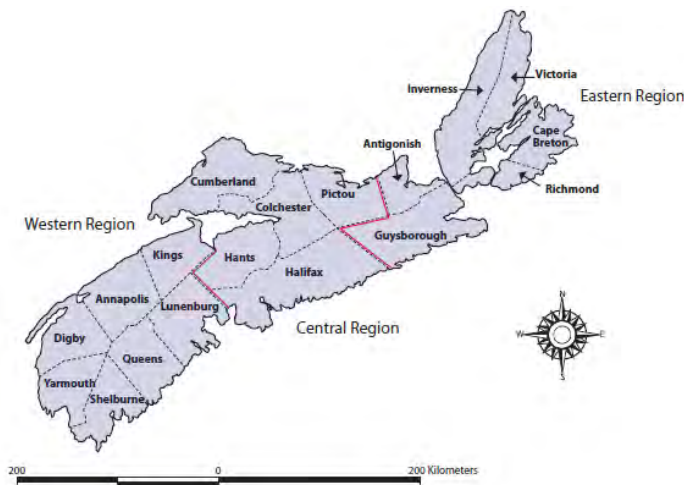Canada's Intelligent Communities

Western Valley

Nova Scotia's Western Valley region extends from Digby county in the west to Hants county in the east and includes the Annapolis Valley that runs along the island's north coast.
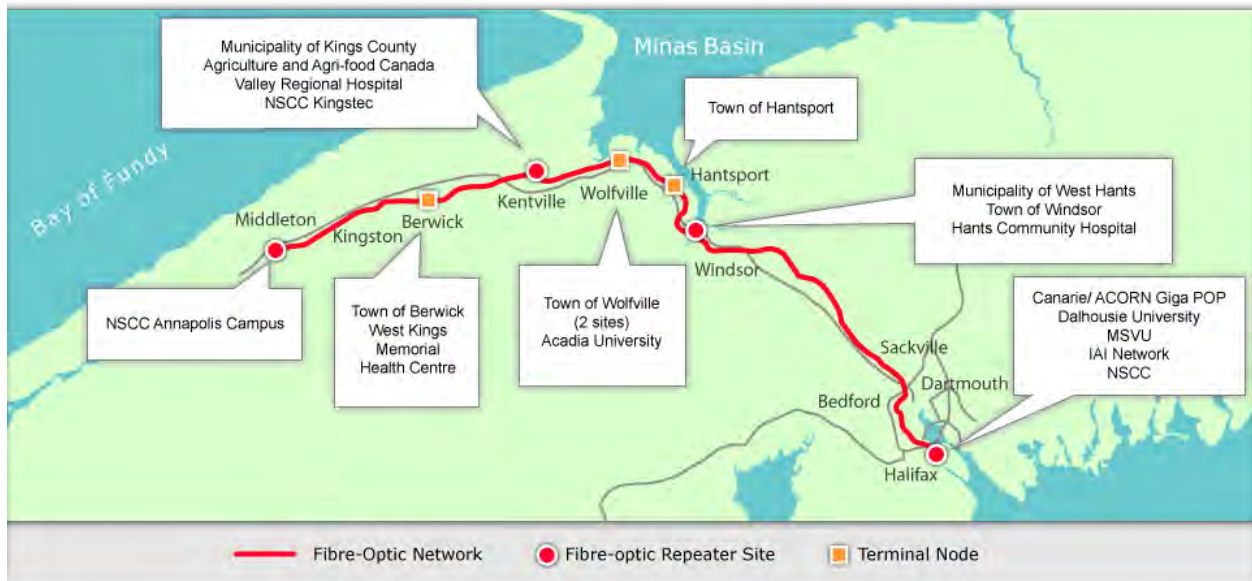

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Acadia University

Founded in 1838, Acadia University is one of the oldest and most respected liberal arts universities in Canada. Located just a one-hour drive from Halifax, Nova Scotia and its international airport, Acadia is an integral part of the quintessential college town of Wolfville, overlooking the Annapolis Valley and the Bay of Fundy.

Acadia's Office of Industry & Community Engagement (ICE), identifies and connects Acadia's researchers with industry, government and community groups interested in research, commercialization and outreach activities. As a member of Springboard Atlantic, ICE works with other universities in Atlantic Canada to ensure a strong contribution to the development and prosperity of our local and regional communities. ICE:
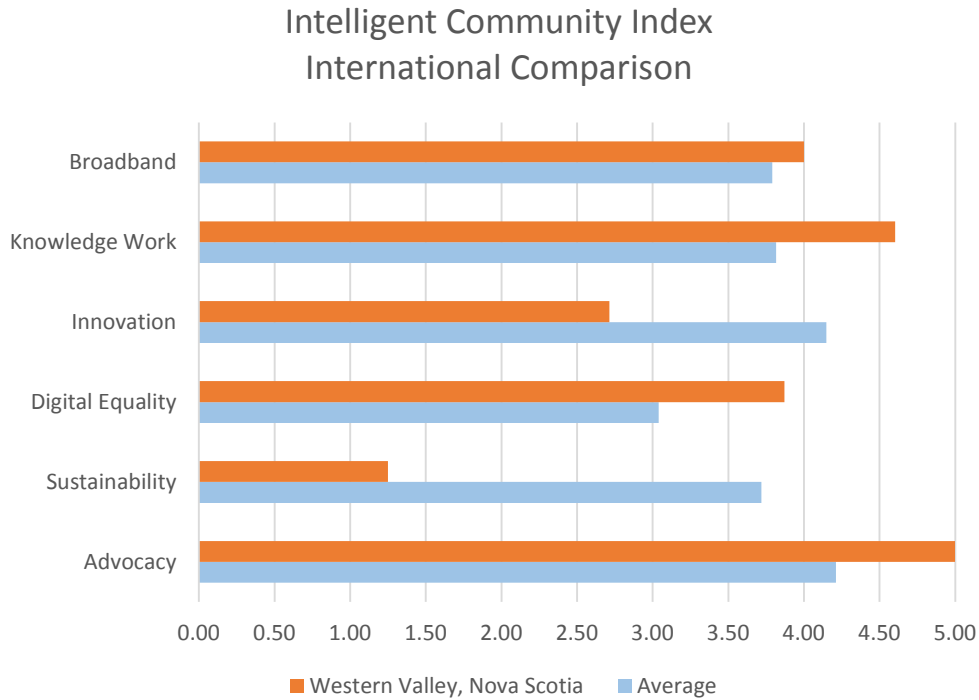
- Serves as a primary point of contact between external organizations and internal staff and facilities.

- Facilitates and manages a wide variety of collaborations between Acadia faculty and students and industry/government/community partners.

- Identifies appropriate funding opportunities for research collaborations and other types of partnering initiatives.

- Develops and negotiates a wide variety of research and commercialization agreements.

- Provides commercialization and knowledge transfer services to Acadia faculty, staff, and students, including assessing the commercial potential of discoveries, identifying funding opportunities, IP protection activities, and marketing of technologies ready to be commercialized.

Valley Community Fibre Network

Built in 2008, the Valley Community Fibre Network (VCFN) is jointly owned by the towns of Berwick, Hantsport, Windsor, and Wolfville, the Municipality of the County of Kings, the Municipality of the District of West Hants, Acadia University, and the Nova Scotia Community

College. In addition to its owners, the VCFN currently serves users from the educational, health, research, and business sectors and is managed by Halifax-based telecommunications company Internetworking Atlantic Incorporated (IAI). It provides a high-capacity fibre-optic backbone that connects the Annapolis Valley with Halifax, the nearest urban centre.

Intelligent Community Index International Comparison

The graph above compares the community's reported performance in each of the Intelligent Community Indicators with ICF's global data set.

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