To: Class of 2020  
From: Mary Butler, President & CEO, NBCC  
Subject: Graduation  

Dear students,

The past six weeks have been a time of great upheaval; however, you have responded to the changes brought about by the public health guidelines with strength and enthusiasm. Words cannot express how much we appreciate your assistance as we all try to navigate these unprecedented times.

With public health guidelines around physical distancing still in place, and a restriction on large gatherings anticipated even after distancing is relaxed, we are unable to proceed with our traditional graduation ceremonies in June. We recognize that this is not how you envisioned the completion of your college experience and it is natural that you may feel disappointment about this news. Please know that your instructors, your department heads, your friends in student services and other college leaders are disappointed that we will not be able to celebrate with you in person in June.

Though our circumstances may have changed, our commitment to finding a creative and memorable way to celebrate this milestone remains. In addition to working with your Student Union on potential solutions, we are inviting each of you to share your ideas and suggestions with us via StudentQuestions@nbcc.ca. We want to hear how you would like to experience this milestone. What would make it special for you? What are some ideas for making this meaningful even if we are physically apart? Through your final months at NBCC, you have demonstrated even greater levels of resilience as you’ve adapted to change. The Class of 2020 has experienced an education unlike any other. This is an opportunity to create a celebration that is as unique and unprecedented as your college experience.

For those of you who wish to attend an in-person graduation ceremony instead, we will ensure you are invited to participate in the next NBCC in-person convocation that is scheduled.

We will share more details about graduation as they become available. We are cheering you in the home stretch of this academic year – you are almost there!

We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Mary  
President & CEO, NBCC