

## **The PIER partners with BHER to transform workforces for a net-zero economy**

June 27, 2023, Halifax Nova Scotia – The PIER (Port Innovation, Engagement & Research) is partnering with [Business + Higher Education Roundtable \(BHER\)](#) to advance a net-zero economy through work-integrated learning. Through this partnership, with support from the Government of Canada, we are developing a highly skilled net-zero workforce. Funding from BHER will enable the development and delivery of work-integrated learning (WIL) experiences to more than 500 post-secondary students across the province over a 24-month period, all focused on developing green skills for a net-zero economy. This program will help HPA and The PIER advance workforce transformation in an energy-intensive industry that is committed to reaching net zero targets by 2050.

“Our progress towards greater sustainability – which takes into consideration the environment, the economy, and our local cultures and society – will only succeed if we have the talent in place with the right skills and attitudes to bring about the change needed,” said Dr. Scully, Director of Workforce Development at The PIER who will be leading the WIL program. “Through collaboration with other partners, including Dalhousie University, Saint Mary’s University, Nova Scotia Community College, The Discovery Centre, DeepSense, Ignite Labs, and others, students will be able to participate in a variety of skill building experiences including hackathons, bootcamps, industry and capstone projects, and traditional internships.”

“BHER is proud to support The PIER with this multifaceted project to advance green skills within the transportation, logistics, and supply chain industries. It’s an opportune moment to strengthen talent attraction to this vital sector,” said Andrew Bieler, Director of Partnerships & Experiential Learning at BHER.

### **About The PIER**

The PIER is Canada’s first living lab dedicated to enabling collaborative problem solving between tech companies, local and global supply chain partners, researchers, SMEs, and startups to support innovation and uncover new commercial opportunities within the transportation, supply chain and logistics industries. The PIER provides a landing space for developing companies with expertise in maritime and landside transportation and logistics who want to create solutions alongside global industrial leaders.

### **About the Business + Higher Education Roundtable**

The Business + Higher Education Roundtable (BHER) is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization bringing together some of Canada’s largest companies and leading post-secondary institutions. Since 2015, BHER has worked to harness the strengths of Canada’s business and post-secondary education sectors to build opportunities for young Canadians, boost innovation and drive collaboration. Learn more at [www.bher.ca](http://www.bher.ca) Visit our [WIL Hub](#) for ways to explore, invest in and create quality WIL opportunities.

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