



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

### Northern Lakes College pays it forward after donation

**[February 25, 2015, Slave Lake]** - Northern Lakes College received a donation of over \$1,900 in lumber for the carpenter apprenticeship program from Vanderwell Contractors. The carpenter program gratefully accepted the donation with the agreement to pay it forward to another group in the community.

As part of their education and training, the carpenter apprentices will use the donated lumber to construct various projects including a bird banding station for the Boreal Bird Centre in Slave Lake. This is an opportunity for students to hone their skills while working on a real world project. At the same time, this project will benefit the Boreal Bird Centre and the community of Slave Lake.

Laura Vanderwell-Ross, of Vanderwell Contractors, is excited about the benefits of paying it forward in the community. "By carrying on the legacy of Robert Vanderwell, we are committed to the community of Slave Lake and a strong supporter of education. We are very pleased to provide lumber products to Northern Lakes College for their carpentry program. Using our lumber products to build sheds and buildings for other non-profit organizations is one of the ways to contribute as a business in our community!"

The carpenter apprenticeship program at Northern Lakes College is hands-on and provides students with the skills and theory needed to write the Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training theory and practical exams. All three periods of the carpenter apprentice program are available at the Northern Lakes College campus in Slave Lake.

"We appreciate this opportunity to provide our students with real-life projects that make a difference in the community. The concept of "paying it forward" is an important concept for our students to experience", offered Nelson Lutz, Dean, Trades and Technology at Northern Lakes College.

Vanderwell Contractors is a family owned lumber business located in Slave Lake. They operate a random length dimension sawmill and planing mill, with a new co-generation plant under construction. They employ over 155 staff members in the Slave Lake region.

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*Northern Lakes College is a Comprehensive Community Institution offering certificate and diploma programs in Business, Health Sciences, Human Services, Technology, Trades, University Studies and Academic Upgrading. The College collaborates with Campus Alberta partners to offer degree completion opportunities throughout its service region, including a Bachelor of Education. Northern Lakes College also provides a wide variety of certificate programs through its Continuing Education and Corporate Training Department.*

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