

2017

COMMUNITY REPORT
A YEAR IN REVIEW



NORTHERN LAKES
COLLEGE

New Beginnings. Endless Possibilities.

Looking back, we are thankful...



Daniel Vandermeulen
Board Chair



Ann Everatt
President and CEO

The strength of Northern Lakes College (NLC) is the ability to provide educational programs that equip students to earn a good living, become successful in their careers and become role models for their children and families. We firmly believe that NLC's tagline "Start Here. Go Anywhere." has no limit to where a student's journey will begin, regardless of the starting point. Our commitment to competency-based learning across all of our programs is evident in our student success rates. Northern Lakes College students get good jobs in which they begin their careers. The employment rate for our graduates is very high at 91%, and feedback from employers in the region tell us that "NLC students have received the right training."

We are proud of the commitment and dedication of our staff to ensure students are successful and proud of our students for working so hard amongst all of the challenges they face. We are thankful for all the great partnerships we've established.

Enjoy the Community Report — it includes a great collection of inspiring student success stories and provides a snapshot of what Northern Lakes College has been up to this past year.

Cover Photo Credit: Bruce D'Sena, Northern Lakes College



Your **College.**

Your **Community.**

WE ARE DISTRIBUTED-SUPPORTIVE LEARNING.

We use technology to serve over 50 communities across the province.

WE ARE COMMUNITY.

We're proud to provide post-secondary education to 15 First Nations and four Métis Settlements within our service region.

WE ARE CONNECTED.

A local Community Education Committee (CEC) chair represents each NLC campus and serves on the Council of Community Education Committee (CCEC), the principal advisory body of the College.

WE ARE RESPONSIVE.

Northern Lakes College engages with business, industry, and communities to ensure our programs meet their needs.

WE ARE INNOVATIVE.

Using blended delivery and mobile training facilities, we bring quality post-secondary education to student's community.



NORTHERN LAKES
COLLEGE

A photograph of a canoe on a body of water during sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange glow that reflects on the water and the canoe. The canoe is dark and has some gear inside. The overall mood is peaceful and inspiring.

Let's hear
from our
students...

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“I wanted to continue learning and improve my skills to advance the care of my patients and extend my expertise.”

*Tarek Kadry
Advanced Care Paramedic
Program, Slave Lake Campus*

We are Northern
Lakes College

We are leaders, game changers, and **trailblazers**.

We are **passionate** about what we do, where we are, and who we are.

We are **inspired** by our students and invested in our communities.

We are hungry in our quest for **excellence** and relentless in that pursuit.

We are Northern Lakes College...and
we make a difference.

“I like that Northern Lakes College offers programs with flexible delivery methods. This makes it easy for me to continue working and studying at the same time. The instructors are great to work with and are available when I have questions regarding my course work. I chose NLC because it offered flexible programming in my own community. If you are a student wanting to stay close to home, Northern Lakes College is a great place to be. From the enrollment process to working through the courses in your program, NLC staff will guide you step by step. I highly recommend Northern Lakes College to future students.”

*Josee Bouchard
NLC Student Social Work
Diploma Program
Peace River Campus*

OUR SERVICE REGION



"I expanded my skills at Northern Lakes College while working in the industry. Through studying, challenging exams, and performing hands on tasks, I learned problem solving skills, physical endurance, how to work with others, and developed a strong work ethic in an industry that deals with precision work."

Kylar Schamp
Dual Credit Alumni
Slave Lake Campus

"My goal is to become an accountant, but not just an accountant. I hope to one day have my own business where I can help people with their finances and help them achieve their business goals. Northern Lakes College offers an Academic Upgrading Program that has allowed me to take the first step towards my goal."

Angelica Royal
Academic Upgrading Student
Peace River Campus

"I enrolled into Academic Upgrading after being out of school for 10 years. The program allowed me to refresh some courses and prepare me to enroll in the Business Administration program. It was a lot of fun going back to school, and I had a great support group here."

Louka Pawlowich
Academic Upgrading Alumni
Peace River Campus

"The Business Administration program will help me build my career down the road. I would highly recommend this program — there is unlimited potential for employment."

Andy Alook
Business Administration Program
Stony Point Campus

"Northern Lakes College and the University of Calgary do an exceptional job in providing educational services to the Peace River area. I was able to pursue my educational goals and continue to work in my own community. I am forever grateful that Northern Lakes College has enabled me to improve my skills and knowledge while I live and work in the North."

Christine Kaip
NLC Social Work Diploma and Bachelor of Social Work Graduate
Peace River Campus

"I wanted to become a teacher but needed a program I could do from home as I have a two-year-old son. The Aboriginal Teacher Education program was perfect as it allowed me to stay at home for much of the studies and still focus on my family."

Cheyenne Cook
Aboriginal Teacher Education Program
Slave Lake Campus



Northern Lakes College celebrated Graduates of 2017 in High Prairie

"Be compassionate,
stay humble, keep the
passion burning inside
your heart, take time to
laugh, and share a piece
of yourself with the
world."

Jzomuel Vida,
Valedictorian 2017

Northern Lakes College proudly celebrated the success of its students on June 2, 2017. NLC's 917 graduates were enrolled in over 32 programs and included 25 dual credit students who graduated with a credential. Friends and family celebrated student achievements at the Convocation ceremony held at the Sports Palace in High Prairie, Alberta.

Elder Rose Wabasca and her granddaughter Keanna Ferguson led the opening evocation with prayer which was followed by Canada's national anthem. Master of Ceremonies Glenn Mitchell, Dean of Business and Academics, welcomed all attendees and introduced a number of dignitaries including Mr. Daniel Vandermeulen, Chair, Board of Governors; Ms. Debbie Jabbour, MLA for Peace River; Mr. Brian Gilroy, Deputy-Mayor for the Town of High Prairie; Counsellor Donald Charrois, M.D of Big Lakes County;

and keynote speaker the Honourable Danielle Larivee, MLA for Lesser Slave Lake and Minister of Children's Services.

Ann Everatt, President and CEO of Northern Lakes College, congratulated the graduating class of 2017 with words of motivation and optimism. She said, "Education is empowerment. You have many choices in the direction your life will take. Graduation is the first step. The next is your first job in your new career or embarking on a new learning opportunity. Continue to seek out learning opportunities, and most of all, be passionate about change for yourself, your families and your future."

Chosen to be the Valedictorian of the Graduating Class of 2017, Jzomuel Vida, told his peers, "Do not stop dreaming and dream big." Awards were given to a number of students in recognition of outstanding achievement in a variety of areas.



A photograph showing three individuals in academic regalia. On the left, a man with a grey beard and mustache, wearing a dark blue gown with a green stole, holds a large bouquet of white and yellow flowers. In the center, a woman with dark hair, wearing a dark blue gown, smiles. On the right, a woman with short blonde hair, wearing a dark blue gown with a light blue stole, also smiles. They are standing in front of a dark background with some flags visible on the left.

Friend of Northern Lakes College Award

Danielle Larivee

*MLA for Lesser Slave Lake and
Minister of Children's Services*

Northern Lakes College annually presents its "Friend of Northern Lakes College Award" to a person who demonstrates commitment to the success of the College and is a role model who actively supports post-secondary education.

The College was honoured to present Danielle Larivee with the award in recognition of her strong support of the College. She was presented with the award during the Convocation ceremony hosted in June 2017 in High Prairie.

Danielle Larivee was elected to the Legislative Assembly of Alberta as the Member for the constituency of Lesser Slave Lake on May 5, 2015. She is currently the Minister of Children's Services and prior to that she was the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Danielle has also served as a member of the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing, and as a member of the Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future.

Educational connection

During her 17-year career, Danielle has worked as a Registered Nurse with Alberta Health Services, with home care for the Driftpile First Nation, and with NLC as a Practical Nurse Instructor. Danielle's caring and compassion for people is readily evident.

At Convocation, Larivee said to the graduates, "Northern Lakes College

represents the opportunity for a bright future for yourselves, for those you care about and for our province. That's why I always love talking to students, teachers, and community leaders about how we can work together to support that opportunity."

Ms. Larivee holds a Bachelor of Science in Midwifery from the Midwives College of Utah and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Alberta. She also is an alumna of the TUXIS Parliament of Alberta.

Lesser Slave Lake region

Ms. Larivee and her three children reside in Slave Lake, a place that she has called home for over 35 years. She loves the community which is abundant with rivers and lakes. Whenever she finds an opportunity, she heads out with her kayak.



Capping and Pinning



The Practical Nurse students celebrated on Thursday, June 1, 2017, with a traditional Capping and Pinning Ceremony. The ceremony is a 150-year-old tradition that is conducted in candlelight, and each nursing student is presented with a nursing cap and pin. The celebration consisted of a number of speeches from dignitaries including the Dean of Health Harrison Applin and Valedictorian Jzomuel Vida. Forty-six Practical Nurse students from Peace River, High Level, Slave Lake and Grande Prairie graduated.

“ I have never seen instructors devote their time and effort in ensuring that their students are ready for the real world. They are very passionate about teaching and inspiring us to *be the best that we can be.*”

An *Ambassador* for Success

As an energetic and enthusiastic student, Jzomuel (Jay) Vida fit in with the class well and instantly made friends with his peers. His excitement to be part of the class was contagious! Vida was a student of the Practical Nurse program from the Grande Prairie Campus, who graduated in June of 2017. Vida comes from a family whose members all work in the health sector, and he pursued nursing while he was still living in the Philippines. Vida continued his educational journey with Northern Lakes College to become a Licensed Practical Nurse in Canada.

Being a newcomer to Canada can pose many challenges. “The main challenge was the language. English is not my first language. Northern Lakes College provided an e-Tutor who guided me in the right direction and helped me explain my thoughts on paper,” he said. Vida excelled and had some of the top grades in his class, but he always found time to help others, whether this was explaining a nursing principle or helping with an assignment.

Vida says that going through secondary education for the third time really surprised him. “I have never seen instructors devote their time and effort



Jzomuel Vida

in ensuring that their students are ready for the real world. They are very passionate about teaching and inspiring us to be the best that we can be. I felt I would succeed in the program from Day One because the instructors at the College support and have confidence in their students.”

Vida was Valedictorian of the Graduation Class of 2017. During his speech he said, “Northern Lakes College has been known for producing the best professionals regardless of their chosen careers. This is because they choose the best people to educate, guide, support, train, and nurture their students.” He

“The main challenge was the language. English is not my first language. Northern Lakes College provided an e-Tutor who guided me in the right direction and helped me explain my thoughts on paper.”

reminded his peers, “Be compassionate, stay humble, keep the passion burning inside your heart, take time to laugh, and share a piece of yourself with the world.”

Vida’s instructors feel he is up for any challenge the PN role has to throw at him. One memory stands out for his instructor, Ann Noseworthy. “We were working on a busy medical unit, and Jay was given the task of caring for a gentleman who had been given the news of terminal cancer. Jay cared for him daily and always kept a positive attitude. He helped the patient transition at such a difficult time and did so with compassion as well as any veteran nurse. It was a proud moment for me. I am inspired by his passion for nursing and his caring attitude. He will be an amazing nurse.”



**FIRST IN
ALBERTA**

Addictions Counselling Diploma Program Will Make a Difference

The Addictions Counselling Diploma program was developed based on research, years of delivering the Addiction Services Worker Certificate program, and in consultation with employers and industry. The rise in the rate of addiction is nationwide, including communities across northern Alberta. The Addictions Counselling Diploma program will bring enhanced career opportunities and provide graduates with an elevated level of skills and understanding in the field. “We are ecstatic to be offering the Addictions Counselling Diploma program at Northern Lakes College. As this new program is the first online diploma in addictions in the province, we are excited to provide this training to students regionally, provincially, and nationally,” said Michelle Mitchell, Dean, Academic Quality and University Studies.



**FIRST IN
CANADA**

ONLINE Introduction to Surveying Program

Northern Lakes College is proud to announce it is delivering Canada’s only online Introduction to Surveying program. This foundational level program will allow surveying to be a career choice regardless of where the learner is living. “Individuals who will benefit from the Introduction to Surveying program are high school students, recent high school graduates, career seekers, and anyone looking to better understand the basics of surveying,” stated Cherie Friesen, Chair, Resource Technology Programs. The Survey Theory and Calculations program serves individuals already employed with survey companies, whereas the Introduction to Surveying program is geared for individuals exploring the possibility of seeking employment with a survey company. For those without prior surveying experience, the Introduction to Surveying program will provide a solid foundation of survey theory and the confidence to perform routine survey tasks. Upon completion, students will be well prepared for entry level positions where they can continue to expand their knowledge of surveying as a member of a survey crew.

“ I had an impeccable mentorship that allowed me to learn and grow in this field. One of my mentors stressed the importance of self-reflection when it comes to working with vulnerable clients. It supported my belief that social work is not what you do but who you are.”

NLC Alumni's *Passion* for the North

For communities like Peace River, educational opportunities can change people's lives in very meaningful ways. In Northern Lakes College's Social Work Diploma program, students learn to work with different cultures and learn how to recognize and deal with oppression. Graduates are active in their own communities and bring their knowledge and passion forward to help change the lives of others.

Christine Kaip, a Northern Lakes College Alumni who completed the Social Work Diploma in 2015, says, "I have been very fortunate in my career in Social Services. I had an impeccable mentorship that allowed me to learn and grow in this field. One of my mentors stressed the importance of self-reflection when it comes to working with vulnerable clients. It supported my belief that social work is not what you do but who you are. I believe it is part of my responsibility to contribute to a healthy community."

Kaip is married and a mother of two who enjoys the outdoors. She says, "My



Christine Kaip

husband and I like to travel and spend time camping in our holiday trailer." She has lived in the north her entire life and is dedicated to continue working in the Peace River region. "I believe it is my responsibility to contribute to a healthy community which is why I volunteer with Victim Services as a victim's advocate and also volunteer in the community as needed," she said.

The University of Calgary selected the NLC Peace River Campus to deliver the Bachelor of Social Work degree for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 program years.

Kaip says, "Northern Lakes College and the University of Calgary do an exceptional job in providing educational services to the Peace River area. I was able to pursue my educational goal and continue my career in my own community. I am forever grateful that Northern Lakes College enabled me to improve my skills and knowledge while I live and work in the north."

Kaip is an excellent example of a lifelong learner. "My goal for the future is to complete a Master of Social Work through the University of Calgary." When asked about what she would say to a future student, her response was, "If you are considering earning a social work diploma or degree in the north, readjust your expectations of a classroom environment. Northern Lakes College's Diploma program is delivered through virtual learning, and the responsibility is on you to be a mature student. The benefits, however, are that you will be able to pursue education in your own community where you will gain perspective of northern and rural practice."

One Step Closer for the new NLC Campus in High Prairie

Northern Lakes College received welcome news in September 2017 from the High Prairie School Division (HPSD) regarding land for the new campus in High Prairie. The HPSD Board of Trustees approved a land transfer to the College to facilitate the construction of a new campus near the High Prairie Elementary School.

Daniel Vandermeulen, Chair of NLC's Board of Governors, said, "Collaboration with school divisions and post-secondary institutions is important to the College, and we have a history of many successful partnerships. It makes sense to utilize the land that is sitting vacant and save taxpayers money. With the support of the Government of Alberta, the High Prairie School Division, and the Holy Family Catholic Regional Division, our students will enjoy a new campus in a few short years."



Minister Marlin Schmidt and Minister Danielle Larivee

The design of the new campus will begin soon, and the College expects to be shovel-ready by the summer of 2018. Upcoming consultations will provide opportunities for the community to provide input. Although the College has space next to the existing campus to build a new facility, when the Board of Governors was approached with the option of another site, it embraced the opportunity to partner with High

Prairie School Division and Holy Family Catholic Regional Division. President Ann Everatt said, "Our students need space that is tailored to meet their learning needs. This has been a priority project for NLC for the past eight years, and we are delighted to receive funding for this project. It is important that all students in the north have the same opportunities as students in urban centres."

New Partnership between Northern Lakes College and Loon River First Nation

The official ceremony of the partnership was celebrated August 25, 2017, where Chief Sharpe of Loon River First Nation and Ann Everatt, President and CEO of Northern Lakes College signed the partnership agreement.

"We are very pleased with our partnership with Northern Lakes College. We endeavor to provide our community members with access to educational opportunities," said Chief Bernadette Sharpe of Loon River First Nation. "Having a Community Access

Point available will encourage members to pursue education while remaining in the community."

"Northern Lakes College is very happy to be back in the community, and we are excited about the high interest in Academic Upgrading. We look forward to a flourishing relationship with Loon River First Nation and hope to build on opportunities to offer career programs in the future," said Ann Everatt, President and CEO of Northern Lakes College.



President Ann Everatt and Chief Bernadette Sharpe

EDUCATION IS THE PATHWAY TO SUCCESS

Northern Lakes College's *Economic Value*

A recent analysis of the Economic Impact and Return on Investment of Education demonstrated the economic value of Northern Lakes College and how society benefits from the presence of NLC.

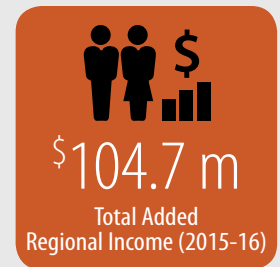
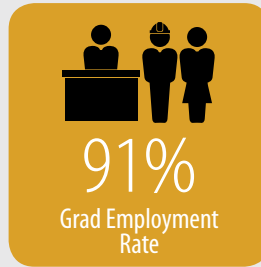
The first and largest benefit is the added income created in the NLC Service Region. Secondly, businesses benefit by increased consumer spending as well as from the steady supply of qualified and trained workers entering the workforce.

The College plays a key role in helping students increase their employability and achieve their individual potential. The report stated the educational investment made by students in 2015-2016 amounted to \$26 million. NLC students develop skills required for an increasingly demanding workplace and will receive a stream of higher

future wages that will continue to grow throughout their working lives.

Today, thousands of former students are employed in the NLC service region. Alumni who were active in the regional work force in 2015-2016 generated \$69.9 million in added income through their higher earnings and increased productivity of their employers. It is undeniable that NLC contributes to society by creating a more prosperous economy and by generating a variety of savings that helps students enhance and enrich their lives.

2016-17 Statistics



Lakeland College Partnership: *Institutional Engagement*

Northern Lakes College is offering the Practical Nurse program at Lakeland College's Lloydminster campus.

The courses are offered primarily online, and the lab component of the program will feature face-to-face instruction at the Lloydminster campus. Lakeland College has health labs in place, and Practical Nurse students will have access to many of Lakeland's amenities such as its residence, athletics, recreation, and wellness services.

"We're pleased to work with Northern Lakes College to provide another program option for people in our region who want to pursue careers in the health sector," says Alice Wainwright-Stewart, President of Lakeland College.

"Northern Lakes College has a number of collaborative partnerships and is very happy to be working with Lakeland College in delivering the Practical Nurse program," says Ann Everatt, President and CEO. "The success rate of NLC's Practical Nurse students is high, and with the increasing demand for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs), we anticipate this program to fill quickly."

As Everatt predicted, the September 2017 intake was filled shortly after the announcement of the program offering.

In addition to courses and labs, students are required to complete four practicums at participating health facilities during the two-year diploma program. The demand for LPNs continues to remain strong, and students are employed upon graduation.

Lakeland
COLLEGE



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Student mental health and well-being have a tremendous impact on a student's educational success. I am happy to see that mental health is a priority and that more programs and services will be available for NLC students.”

Reegan Fraser
Advanced Care
Paramedic Student

Improving Life for NLC Students

A government funding commitment will help ensure that Northern Lakes College students have access to quality mental health programs and care. “Our government's increased investment in student mental health programs is an important commitment to help students succeed. Mental health challenges have a significant impact on far too many students, and we are making these public investments so all students across the province have access to these programs when they need them,” said Marlin Schmidt, Minister of Advanced Education. The province is providing the College with \$290,000 in funding each year for the next three years. This funding is part of government's \$25.8 million investment to protect and improve the mental health of post-secondary students at

publicly funded institutions across the province between 2017 and 2020.

“Northern Lakes College is very pleased to receive funding that will allow us to further enhance opportunities for our students, including access to mental health resources and engagement activities. The funding will allow Northern Lakes College to progress towards our goal of developing a comprehensive wellness program that is focused on mental health. We want our students to have every opportunity for success,” said Ann Everatt, President and CEO.

Over the past two years, the College received \$77,500 from the Alberta Students' Executive Council government grant to support mental health initiatives. The September 2017

announcement about ongoing funding was welcome news. Student Reegan Fraser said, “Student mental health and well-being have a tremendous impact on a student's educational success. I am happy to see that mental health is a priority and that more programs and services will be available for NLC students.”

Beyond the Books:

Striving in the Midst of Challenges

News today is widely accessible, and we often hear or read stories about people who require acute medical care. What we don't hear or read about in the news are the stories of the people who work behind the scenes providing emergency medical services and the challenges they face.

Tarek Kadry, a Northern Lakes College student, is one of those people who has a strong desire to help others. Kadry was already working in the field as an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) when he met Ann-Marie Aubertin, who would become his future instructor. "The first time I met Tarek was when I was working for Slave Lake Alberta Health Services (AHS) in Emergency Medical Services (EMS). I had flown into Provost to pick up a patient, and Tarek was one of the EMRs who picked us up at the airport to bring us to the hospital. What stood out for me immediately was how respectful and inquisitive he was," she said.

In 2011, Kadry enrolled into NLC's Primary Care Paramedic program (formerly known as the Emergency Medical Technician program). Kadry chose NLC because it allowed him to continue to work and study at the same time. Aubertin says Kadry is an inspiration to others including herself.



Tarek Kadry

"What inspires me most about Tarek is that he takes his education seriously and constantly strives to be his best. He faces challenges head on until he is satisfied with the outcome."

In the fall of 2016, NLC introduced the two-year Advanced Care Paramedic program. Aubertin said to Kadry, "You need to be in this program; the profession needs people like you." With the encouragement from Aubertin, Kadry applied to the program even though he was unsure if he would be admitted due to the limited number of seats and the high demand. Aubertin was true to her word; she helped guide him through the program challenges so he could be successful.

Kadry credits his success to the support he received. "When I call the office at Northern Lakes College, they know my name, and I know theirs. The staff and instructors are very personable, and they treat people like family. They always show an interest in my studies and how I am doing."

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When I call the office at Northern Lakes College, they know my name, and I know theirs. The staff and instructors are very personable, and they treat people like family. They always show an interest in my studies and how I am doing. Northern Lakes College is a community College with an emphasis on the people.”



Left to Right: Charlene Parker, Shell Canada; Mr. and Mrs. Cardinal, grandparents; Aaron Mindel, student; Jeffrey Mindel, father; and Kylar Schamp, Instructor

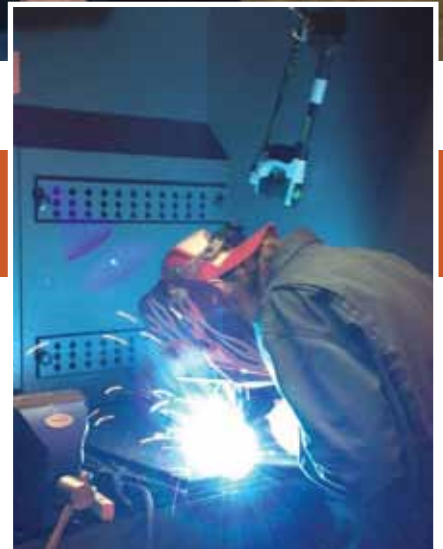
Mind Over Metal Welding Camp

The community of High Prairie was home to the Mind Over Metal Welding Camp held in July. This one-week camp for youth between the ages of 12 to 15 was held at the High Prairie campus with the use of the Mobile Trades Training Lab. The welding camp was free to students thanks to the generous donation of the Canadian Welding Association Foundation, Shell Canada, and Northern Lakes College.



During the week long camp, students learned about safety procedures in welding, proper use of hand and power tools, and the basics of Gas Metal Arc Welding. With three instructors available to the group of 12 students, the young teens were able to experience hands-on learning using the tools and welding equipment in the mobile training lab to create three different projects. On the last day, students celebrated with a luncheon and awards ceremony. Family and friends attended, and the young students showcased their projects.

Charlene Parker, Community Liaison for Shell said, "It is great to see the



students' enthusiasm while presenting their final projects and hearing them speak about how they want to continue building their welding skillsets. The welding camp opens a lot of opportunities for students, and, hopefully, this camp will inspire and encourage them to pursue a career in Trades. Shell is proud to be a sponsor of this initiative."



Waylon Lauck...a new spark

Waylon Lauck was 12 years old when he attended the Mind Over Metal Camp in High Prairie. During that week, he got to experience how to weld using the Mig welders and various tools. His newly learned skills left a lasting impression on him that may shape his future. Lauck knew he wanted to continue working on welding projects and was determined to buy himself a portable welder. The challenge was that he was only 12 and could not get a job. As a resourceful and determined young man, he began to pick bottles. He knew full well that it would take a long time, but he was determined to earn enough money to buy the equipment he needed to continue with his newly-found welding passion. Lauck's mom, Karen, was very proud of him and sent an email to the Canadian Welding Association thanking them for the new spark that was apparent in her son. And sometimes good things happen — the Canadian Welding Association and Northern Lakes College collaborated and came up with a fantastic gift. A new welder

and all the equipment needed was presented to Lauck. And to further encourage Lauck to pursue his new passion in welding, Northern Lakes College presented Lauck with a gift certificate for the tuition cost of his first period of its Welding program.



Left to Right: Canadian Welding Association Ken McKen and Cody Vigeant, Waylon Lauck, President Ann Everatt, and Chair, Brian Panasiuk

Aboriginal Careers Explorers Academy

Northern Lakes College hosted the Aboriginal Careers Explorers Academy at the Slave Lake Campus from July 10 to August 11, 2017. The five-week program was designed to raise youth awareness of career options and help youth gain work experiences through internships.

"This is the second year the Aboriginal Careers Explorers Academy has been hosted at our Slave Lake Campus," said Brian Panasiuk, Chair, Student Recruitment and Dual Credit. "It has been a great experience for youth to gain valuable work experiences and to form professional work relationships. We are really happy with the response

from the business community; their support is crucial to this Academy."

Youth from the Lesser Slave Lake region attending the camp lived in Student Residences, and with the help of their supervisors, learned how to plan meals, shop for groceries and prepare meals.

Developing job-readiness skills, meeting new friends, learning life skills, and participating in fun evening activities were several of the great opportunities this academy had to offer.

The Aboriginal Careers Explorers Academy is a collaborative partnership. Northern Lakes College would like to acknowledge all partners: Careers: The Next Generation, Shell Canada, Rupertsland Institute, Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council, Lesser Slave Lake Indian Regional Council, Alberta Health Services, Vanderwell Contractors, Lesser Slave Lake Regional Housing Authority, Sawridge First Nation, Tolko Industries, and Alberta Native Friendship Centres Association.



An Innovative Partnership: *Transforming* **Rural Education**

Strong partnerships are key to the success of Northern Lakes College. Together with business, industry, and educational partners, the College shares a mutual interest in providing access to high quality learning opportunities and preparing a skilled workforce.



NLC takes its commitment a step further through mobile opportunities that bring education to learners in their own home communities.

In 2016, the College designed and introduced two Mobile Trades Training Labs. The labs are self-contained and mobile, allowing the units to travel to rural communities where access to trades training is often not available. The labs provide students with an opportunity to try various trades and access training in their home communities.

NLC collaborated with the Holy Family Catholic Regional Division (HFCRD) in Peace River to provide experiential learning opportunities to students,

TRANSFORMING RURAL EDUCATION

exposing them to a selection of trades including Carpentry, Millwright, Electrician, and Boom Truck. This learning opportunity allowed students to gain valuable hands-on experiences while earning high school credits and will help students in their future career choices.

“Northern Lakes College provided a rare opportunity for students of Glenmary School to receive training. Students learn best with experiences, and the mobile trades training labs certainly provided that,” said HFCRD’s Superintendent, Betty Turpin, “every single student in the program had very positive things to say about their time with Northern Lakes College, and many said it influenced their career decisions. We look forward to offering more joint

programming with Northern Lakes College in the future.”

Partnerships and collaborative initiatives will continue to play an important role for the College’s innovative trades programming in rural communities. “Northern Lakes College is dedicated to partnerships that provide experiential College level programming to local high school students, encouraging students to continue their education after high school. Future prosperity of northern Alberta is reliant upon educated Albertans living and staying in the north,” said Ann Everatt, President and CEO.



“Every single student in the program had very positive things to say about their time with Northern Lakes College.”

*Betty Turpin
Holy Family Catholic Regional
Division’s Superintendent*

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“Trying out different trades allowed me to use my own experiences to pick which trade I want to pursue.”

“My dad is a millwright, and I have always wanted to try the trade. The trades program allowed me to try it, and now I’m going to pursue millwrighting as a career.”

“I wanted to pursue a career in pharmacy, but after doing the crane operator course, I want to complete the full course! I’m going to work as a crane operator while going to school, so I can make more money than the average student would.”

“I was able to try carpentry for the first time! My dad is a carpenter so I have done some minor fooling around in the garage, but this was my first time doing things properly. I showed him the table I made and was very surprised I could make something like that in only a few days.”

Engaging Fox Creek Students through *Experiential Learning*

In April 2017, Northern Lakes College partnered with Shell Canada and Northern Gateway Public Schools to provide an experiential learning week at the Fox Creek School. Students in Grades 7 to 12 participated in a week of learning with help from the local community and educational partners.

The one-week learning opportunity exposed students to a variety of different programs. Students were exposed to options such as Theatre, Robotics, Electrical, Welding, Business Entrepreneurship, and Culinary Arts. The goal of the experiential learning week was to pique students' interests and inspire their curiosity about learning opportunities beyond the traditional classroom.

Senior high school students had the opportunity to follow their interests and select from nine options. They spent five days learning from experts and earning high school credits. One of the options available was the Oilfield Operator Training program. Ten students participated in the program, and prior to the experiential learning week, completed one online course called Oil & Gas Production Operations A. The students then proceeded to attend a five-day lab at the Northern Lakes College Shell Canada Power Engineering and Technology Centre in Peace River. During their lab week, they took a field trip to a local oilfield site hosted by Longrun Exploration near Falher, Alberta, where they received a tour from industry professionals and completed specific objectives related to the program.

Northern Gateway Public Schools and other educational partners were involved with the students' learning experience. Northern Lakes College has partnered with Northern Gateways Public Schools over the past three years to bring the Welding program to students at the Fox Creek School. The College will continue to focus on establishing effective partnerships that support local education with an emphasis on student engagement and development.

“

It is great to see so much interest in the Oilfield Operator Training. This is an opportunity for students to receive hands-on training in a lab with exposure to real situations in the industry. I hope this training will encourage students to consider careers in oil and gas. Shell is proud to be a sponsor of this initiative.”



*Charlene Parker,
Community Liaison,
Shell Canada*



Community Adult Learning Programs

Northern Lakes College recently established four Community Adult Learning Programs (CALPs) in partnership with the Government of Alberta. Community Adult Learning Programs provide adult literacy and foundational learning opportunities to over 120 CALPs across the province.

The four new CALPs will bring Basic Education Level (BEL) programming and employability skills classes to residents in the communities of Wabasca, Atikameg, Chateh, and Cadotte Lake. Students will be able to access the local NLC campus to take online courses, use computer labs, and access other resources on site. The BEL level courses and employability skills classes are CALP sponsored for learners in those communities. NLC continues to ensure students have access to quality education and is proud of this new partnership!

Programming is available in 2018 to both full-time and part-time students. If you are interested or know of someone who may be interested, please contact the local campus for more information.

“

We are excited to be able to provide this service to the residents in the communities of Atikameg, Cadotte Lake, Chateh, and Wabasca. NLC has campuses in all of those communities, so it really is a good fit. The College has been working with a number of CALPs in our service region and partners on many opportunities.”

*Glenn Mitchell
Dean of Business and Academics
Northern Lakes College*



Fort Vermilion: *A Family* of Students

One of Northern Lakes College's tag lines is, "New beginnings. Endless Possibilities." It definitely applies to Peter Beaver, a father of seven. Beaver is currently enrolled as an Academic Upgrading student at the Fort Vermilion Campus alongside two of his children, Corrina and Sammy. He was inspired to return to school when his oldest daughter, Cora, graduated from Academic Upgrading in 2010. Watching his daughter graduate filled Beaver with a sense of pride and the desire to learn.

When his two children Corrina and Sammy applied for College, Beaver saw how easy it was to apply and be accepted, so he decided to submit his application too. His initial career goal was to enroll in the Social Work Diploma program but decided that the two-year Primary Care Paramedic program was a better match to his personality.

The most challenging aspect of returning to school has been the financial costs. A lot of sacrifices were made, but his positive outlook and desire to change his career is noticeable.

"The rewarding part of success is just a year away. I take it one day at a time, knowing it will soon be over," said Beaver.

Beaver is grateful for Jason Kawalauskas and Tracey Parenteau, staff from the Fort Vermilion Campus, for making the learning environment positive and for putting students first, no matter how busy their own schedules are. The support does not end at the College; it is also seen within the Beaver family home. Beaver credits his wife of 25 years, Alvina, for being the one to keep him going. He said, "She tells me how proud she is of me, and when I come home excited because of a 100% grade in math, she tells me that I am a smart man. That's worth more than a million dollars when your wife believes in you and is very proud of your accomplishments."

Beaver is a great role model for his family, and it shows in his younger children who have great aspirations for their own futures. His daughter Shae-Lynn wants to be a doctor, which will

“


I am grateful for having the chance to get my education. If I can do it, so can you. They say you can't teach an old dog new tricks. I say yes you can. The only ones who will not learn are those who won't listen.”

enable her to take care of her family. His son Raven, who has great building skills, wants to be a carpenter. His other son also sees the opportunities that are available through Northern Lakes College and looks forward to following in his father's footsteps by returning to school.

Beaver has some words for those considering going back to school. "If there's one thing I could say to those who are thinking of going back to school, I would say do it. If you even considered it, that's the first step. I am grateful for having the chance to get my education. If I can do it, so can you. They say you can't teach an old dog new tricks. I say yes you can. The only ones who will not learn are those who won't listen."



Left to Right: Corrina, Peter, and Sammy



Ensuring you
get the most
out of your
education.



Northern Lakes College Students' Association

Being a student and getting a good education is more than just going to classes and earning good grades. It's a lifestyle that includes new friends and experiences, personal growth, and facing new challenges.

The Northern Lakes College Students' Association (NLCSA) is here to help with all of it. With student clubs, volunteer opportunities, and support services to assist in securing financial support for your journey, the NLCSA supports students across all Northern Lakes College campuses.

The Students' Association is focused on pursuing the College's strategic goals of building community, creating opportunities for leadership, and supporting the retention needs of the student body. In addition, our Students' Association created goals for Northern Lakes College students to encourage each student's ability to reach his/her own potential.

The NLCSA strives to enhance areas of the student experience through student-led events, mental health training, first aid training, and participation in various community engagement activities. We want to address needs and communicate effectively, ensuring that students have a voice to make positive changes for the College community, and for themselves.

For more information, please visit us at
www.nlcsa.ca
call 780-843-8343
or email sa@northernlakescollege.ca



Northern Lakes College contributes to community development, leadership capacity and vibrant communities through

a unique partnership with a network of local Community Education Committees (CECs) in every community we serve.

Each CEC is represented by a member to cumulatively form the Council of Community Education Committees (CCEC). The NLC Board of Governors recognizes the CCEC as the principal advisory body of the College.

The committees and their council identify program and service needs for their communities and regions, support individual learners, and advise each other about best practices in community education.

The Community Education Committees and the Council of Community Education Committees

Community Education Committees

The College establishes a CEC in each community with a full service campus. Currently there are 17 active CECs in NLC's service region. Members are nominated by municipalities, First Nation Councils and Métis Councils, and then appointed by the President. Other committee members may represent various organizations with mandates ranging from economic development, health, forestry, oil and gas, and small business. The local NLC Students' Association also nominates a student to the committee.

The CEC administers a fund provided by the College called the Community Program Fund, which is replenished each year to a maximum of \$5,000 per community. Local decision-making is enabled through Community Program Funds provided to each CEC to enhance student success through activities such as community education, student awards, student wellness, and promotions.

The majority of the funds are spent on community education initiatives for specific training courses identified as a need by the community. The committee is encouraged to look for opportunities to form partnerships on training initiatives and work with the Regional Manager to identify training needs. The CECs may also allocate a portion of the funds to wellness and promotional activities for NLC students.

Council of Community Education Committees

For over 40 years, the CCEC, comprised of local representatives, has met with the President and senior management on a regular basis. Each CEC appoints a member (usually the Chair) to serve on the CCEC. CECs collaborate for regional solutions and priorities in their community. The CCEC have the opportunity to review NLC's goals and priority initiatives and provide input.

Local CEC Chairs attend the CCEC meetings throughout the year in various communities within the NLC service region. The Council discusses initiatives that span across the region, looking for opportunities to collaborate on training and share ideas. These meetings provide the Community and the College the opportunity to share information and plan for the future.

CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS

15th Annual Métis Celebration

Northern Lakes College hosted its Annual Métis Celebration at the Grouard campus on October 21, 2017. The Métis people of the area have long held traditional social gatherings which draw singers, jiggers, and fiddlers from across the region to participate and compete in a variety of talent categories.

The celebration was well attended and provided a great opportunity for people to reconnect, share stories, and participate in the competitions. New this year was a Métis Celebration Kick-Off event that was held at the Peace River Campus on October 19, 2017. Visitors were able to enjoy stew and bannock, watch a jigging demonstration, and listen to Métis Nation of Alberta speaker Marilyn Lizée and three speakers from Rupertsland Institute: Sharon Sawchuk, Lisa Saville, and Michele McCullough.



NLC 15th Annual Round Dance

The Round Dance was held on March 18, 2017, in High Prairie. The Aboriginal people of the area have long held traditional social dances, drawing dancers and drummers in celebration or in remembrance. The afternoon included a Pipe Ceremony by Mike Beaver and was followed by a meal; then traditional drumming and song filled the night. A free public workshop was offered by Fred Campiou. This educational component explained the protocols of Aboriginal culture such as elder respect and the role of tobacco use within the communities.



*Join us at the
16th Annual Round Dance at
Northern Lakes College's
Slave Lake Main Campus
March 17, 2018.*



OPENHOUSE ROADSHOW

Staff at Northern Lakes College set out on a quest in the spring of 2017: they wanted to showcase each campus by opening the doors to community members. They did just that by hosting an Open House BBQ Roadshow. Every NLC campus hosted an Open House that included wellness activities, prizes, community consultations, student recruitment, and of course, a free BBQ lunch. The word and excitement quickly spread as the “NLC Roadshow team” had groups and organizations that wanted to take part in the fun. Local Community Education Committees, Community Adult Learning Programs members, Alberta Works representatives, NLC Students’ Association, Rupertsland Institute, and many more participated in the events.

The Roadshow was very well received in all communities as it was an excellent opportunity for community members to learn more about the programs and courses the College has to offer and how they can access an affordable, quality education.





Over **800** applications received from NLC students

504 awards disbursed

Over **\$341,000** in funds disbursed

\$216,000 from Indigenous Careers Awards

More to be awarded in 2017-18



Myshak

THANK YOU

Myshak Crane & Rigging Ltd. is the first community partner to support NLC's new Student Emergency Fund. They are very pleased to be able to support our students in emergency situations.

At Northern Lakes College, we recognize the lasting value of our donors' investments. Our main goal of fundraising is to ensure that no student is prevented from achieving an educational goal due to lack of financial resources. With your help, we can reach our 2017-18 Student Awards Program goal of adding an additional 80 awards. As a business, corporation, or a friend of the college, you can make an impact by donating to the Student Awards Program to support all of our students as they move forward with their post-secondary educational goals.

To make a donation, please visit us at www.northernlakescollege.ca/about-us/support/nlc or call 1-866-652-3456

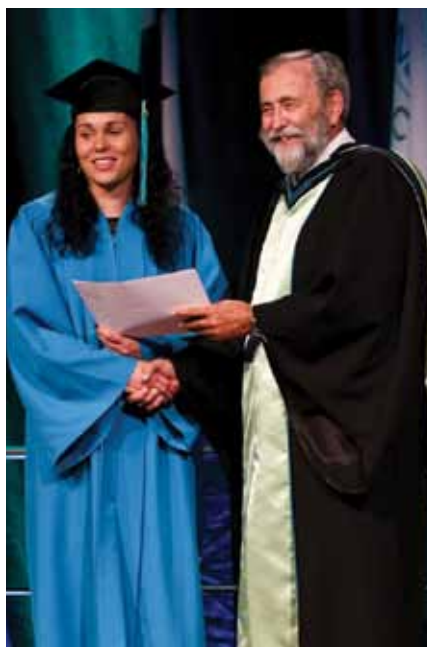
“ I had incredible instructors. The people in the Student Association and staff at the College were great. I really appreciate their support. It was a really good four years.”

Leading by Example: *Exceeding* Personal Expectations

Graduating is a major accomplishment, and there's great joy in donning your cap and gown and receiving your parchment. It's a day when you look back on the challenges you've overcome the late nights studying, driving through storms to get to class, remember the people you met along the way and the fun memories you've made. For Tanis Flett, a graduate of the Social Work Diploma program in June of 2017, it is also proof that her hard work and determination has set her up for a successful future.

Flett is a 29 year-old mother of four who lives in Sucker Creek First Nation with her husband. Flett was a stay-at-home mom for eight years, and when her youngest child started kindergarten, she decided it was time to return to school full-time. Flett credits her husband and his support in her success. She chose to study with NLC because of accessibility. The High Prairie Campus is only 20 minutes away from where she lives, and it was easy to travel back and forth.

During her studies at NLC, Flett was involved with several committees,



Tanis Flett and Daniel Vandermeulen,
Chair, Board of Governors

including the Student Union, the Students' Association, Academic Council, and the Community Education Committee. Flett appreciates the support. "I had incredible instructors. The people in the Students' Association and staff at the College were great. I really appreciate their support. It was a really good four years."

Flett was very excited and relieved when she made it to graduation day. Graduating alongside her sister, Kim Flett-Letendre, was a proud moment. Flett recalled when she was attending a convocation ceremony a few years earlier and watched a Social Work student being called up to receive multiple awards. This was an awe-inspiring moment for her, and she set a goal for herself to be that person one day. Her hard work paid off; on her graduation day, Flett received three awards, including the Governor General's Collegiate Bronze Medallion for highest academic achievement. "I hope that my children will see my hard work and effort as an example for themselves to succeed in life. I believe in leading by example. If you work hard, you can achieve anything you want," she said.

Today, Flett works for the Social Development Department at Sucker Creek First Nation. In her work, Flett continues to aim high and says that her education has given her the skills and tools to handle challenging situations that life has in store.

NLC responds to the

Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action

Northern Lakes College is taking an active leadership role in promoting truth and reconciliation by hosting cultural awareness training for staff, students, and the general public.

In June, Northern Lakes College hosted the workshop “Residential Schools, The History and Its Effects on Indigenous Peoples” at the Slave Lake Campus. The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Charlene Bearhead, who is a mother, grandmother, community member, experienced educator, and educational innovator with 30 years of regional, national, and international experience in the field. Bearhead said, “I am not

an expert. I am a person with one lived experience, my own. Today we will learn together.”

The full day workshop was well attended by over 150 NLC staff and students from across the region. Bearhead shared her wisdom and provided insight into the abuse inflicted on Indigenous peoples through the residential school system. She spoke of the importance of language, culture, and education.

Northern Lakes College continues to demonstrate a commitment to local Indigenous cultures through the ongoing operation of the Native Cultural Arts Museum located at the Grouard Campus as well as hosting two major annual events, the Métis Celebration, and the Round Dance. These events bring the region together to celebrate Indigenous cultures and recognize the significant role of local Indigenous peoples.



Truth and
Reconciliation
Commission of Canada

Northern Lakes College *Elders* Program

The College is pleased to announce the implementation of its first Elders Program. Organized by the College’s Truth and Reconciliation Committee, this new program responds to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada Calls to Action. In keeping with the College’s inclusive delivery methods, the Elders Program will be organized to serve students in face-to-face meetings, by phone, and through on-line learning technologies. There will be four Elders available to students, each providing his or her own individualized expertise. Elders’ rooms are now located at the High Level and Grouard campuses and are accessible to students for face-to-face meetings.



STUDENT SUCCESS STORY

Learn while you Earn

First Period Electrician program now available through NLC LIVE Online

Northern Lakes College is pleased to add a new delivery method for the Electrician Apprenticeship First Period program. NLC LIVE Online allows apprentices to receive scheduled, interactive instruction via the internet. Apprentices can continue working and still participate in the program. Students attend classes online that are scheduled for two hours in the evenings, twice per week. If you miss

“

The other nice thing about this is that the sessions are recorded so if you're at home and can't figure it out, you can watch the session again.”

the class, no problem. Students can watch the recording and not fall behind. On-site classes with electrical shop and lab demonstrations are scheduled for week 7 and 13 of the program at the Slave Lake Campus. The program runs for 16 weeks.

Jesse Van Patten, an ATCO employee from High Level, is currently enrolled in the program, and this is what he said: “I work as an electrician full-time so being able to do my first year electrical online not only helps me continue working full-time but also helps me get my full verification as an electrician.” This training was Van Patten's first experience with online instruction. “The nice thing about doing the electrical training with NLC LIVE Online is that the instructors are there with you, not physically, but online, so they can watch you do the work on the board and critique you. And the other nice



Jesse Van Patten

thing about this is that the sessions are recorded so, if you're at home and can't figure it out, you can watch the session again or just the part you need and not have to worry about getting a hold of the instructor after hours,” said Van Patten.

Check out the latest video demonstrating how the program is delivered. Go to the NLC website or on our YouTube channel.

Apprentices can apply now by contacting Admissions at 780-849-8600 or toll free 1-866-652-3456. More information about apprenticeship and industry training can be found at: <https://tradesecrets.alberta.ca/>

STAFF AWARDS



Deb Lafoy-Caissie

Administrative Assistant Deb Lafoy-Caissie's passion shines through when speaking to her about her work and volunteerism. "I like to work; I enjoy working with my colleagues. I feel very fortunate and am grateful that I have been with Northern Lakes College for so long. I feel the College has allowed me many opportunities, including the chance to pursue my education." This was the second nomination she received; Lafoy-Caissie also received the award in 2005-06. When she started at Northern Lakes College, she knew a little bit about Terry Delorme, his work ethics and the level and quality of service he provided. Lafoy-Caissie feels that Delorme and his contributions to the College are recognized through the award.

"My initial reaction was surprise. It is nice to be recognized. I am grateful that someone saw that my work was deserving, and they thought well enough of me to nominate me. When I found out who else was nominated for the award, I was very humbled because the other nominees are very deserving as well. It wowed me."

Deb Lafoy-Caissie, Terry Delorme Award Recipient

Audrey Fofonoff, a campus instructor at the Stony Point Campus in Wabasca, was the recipient of the Excellence in Service Award for teaching staff. Fofonoff felt good receiving the Excellence in Service Award. "I've always had mixed feeling about awards. We work as a team in Adult Education, so to me there is nothing we ever achieve on our own. As colleagues, we are interdependent on each other to help students succeed," Fofonoff said, crediting her colleagues.

Fofonoff has seen two generations of students walk through her doors. She often runs into former students whose children are now attending the Stony Point Campus. Some have become friends over the years. "To me excellence in service is gaining the trust of learners, that they can depend on my decision-making skills, and they know that I have their best interests at heart when helping them. I try to be an advocate for students, to make sure that students are treated as fairly as possible. It is very rewarding to see when students don't give up despite their challenges. It's a proud moment for me to witness them successfully complete their program."

Audrey Fofonoff, 2017 Excellence in Service - Teaching Award Recipient



Audrey Fofonoff

Marketing Officer Jessica Van Hoek is well known for her smiling face, good humor, and exceptional organizational talents. In August 2017, she was awarded the Excellence in Service Award for non-teaching staff by President and CEO Ann Everatt. When asked how this made her feel, she said, "Honoured. I think it's wonderful that the College acknowledges hard work through these annual awards. It is a great feeling to know that hard work is recognized and appreciated."

Van Hoek enjoys the people she works with very much, and her favorite part of the job is the internal networking with people from every department. Whether it is working with staff at the different campus locations or working on projects and events with staff, she is inspired by them in her work.

***Jessica Van Hoek, Marketing Officer, External Relations
2017 Excellence in Service – Non Teaching Award Recipient***



Jessica Van Hoek

The Travelling Flag



Northern Lakes College staff members are making footprints all around the world!



Rene and Rachel Ouellette
London Tower Bridge



Rene and Rachel Ouellette
Athens Greece



Eric McCutcheon
Magnetic Hill, New Brunswick



Chris Purcell
Wawel Castle, Krakow Poland



Lynn Panasiuk and
Brianne Nettelfield
Whitehouse, Washington DC



Jessica Van Hoek
Alcatraz Island, California



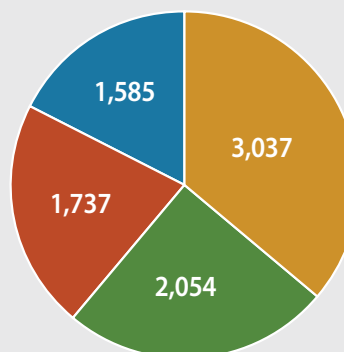
Patricza Rempel
Courtyard in Verona, Italy



The Purchase Family
St. John's Newfoundland

Staff Volunteer Hours

Giving back to our communities is
important to NLC staff members.
In 2017, NLC staff volunteered **8,413**
hours, which is equal to approximately
4.5 full-time jobs!



- Human Services, Seniors, and Religious Groups
- Boards and Associations
- Fire and Rescue Services
- Sports and Recreation

REWARDING. INSPIRING. FUN.

Thank You to Our Donors

The Board of Governors of Northern Lakes College would like to extend its sincerest thanks to all the individuals, companies, and organizations that have made generous contributions to support our students. The following is a list of Northern Lakes College donors, reflecting the donations made to the college. We would also like to extend a sincere thank you to many anonymous donors.

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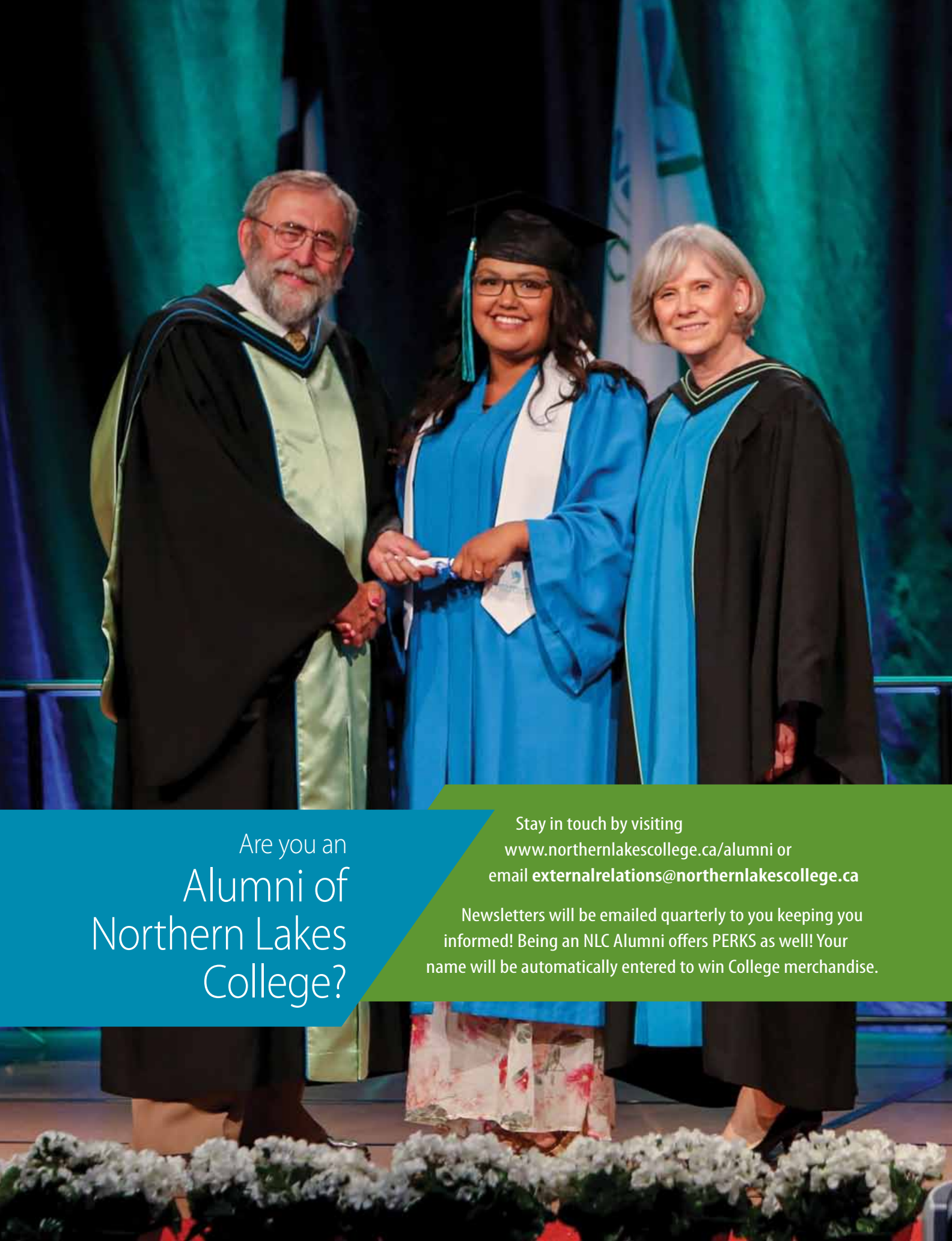
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 Perkinson, David
 Pillay-Kinnee, Karina
 Porto Bello Jobber
 Potvin, Pat
 Prairie Art Gallery
 Pronger, Helen
 Prosser, Helen
 Ramsey, Claudia
 Red Sky Developments
 Reston, Jean
 Richard, Lisa
 Ritchie Bros Auctioneers
 Roland Michener Jr High Outdoor Education Class
 Rye, Lorna
 Sainsbury, Janet
 Sarai, Bernice
 Shanahan, Ernest
 Simons, Irene
 Singh, Paul
 SKEG Enterprises
 Slave Lake Adult Education Committee
 Slave Lake Realty (2003) Ltd.
 Sloan Helicopters
 Snedden, Cindy
 Sniper Satellite Communications
 Sutherland, Frank
 Sutherland, Priscilla
 Sutherland, Sue
 Swan Hills Community Education Committee
 Swift, Judy
 T-J Three Ltd
 Tradewell, Valerie
 Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta
 Van Boxel, Angelina
 Van Braeden, Johan
 Walker, Linda
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 Ward, Mike
 West Fraser
 Westberg, Sharon
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