



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 1, 2018
Slave Lake, AB

It's Official! NLC Celebrates Graduates of 2018 at Convocation Ceremony in Slave Lake

Northern Lakes College proudly celebrated the success of its students on Friday June 1, 2018 at the Multi-Recreation Centre in Slave Lake Alberta. The College extended diplomas and certificates to graduates as part of Convocation 2018, including the first cohort of Advanced Care Paramedics. 987 students graduated from over 32 programs including students who graduated from Continuing Education and Corporate Training programs.

NLC staff, faculty, family and friends came together to celebrate students and their achievements. Elder Laurent Isadore from Driftpile Cree Nation led the opening evocation with prayer followed by Canada's national anthem. Master of Ceremonies Joanne Hunter welcomed all attendees and introduced a number of dignitaries including Mr. Daniel Vandermeulen, Chair, Board of Governors, Northern Lakes College; Honorable Danielle Larivee, Minister of Children's Services and MLA for Lesser Slave Lake; Debbie Jabour, MLA for Peace River; Brian Rosche, Deputy Reeve, Municipal District of Lesser Slave River, Tyler Warman, Mayor, Town of Slave Lake and keynote speaker Francesca Giroux, President, Slave Lake District Chamber of Commerce.

Daniel Vandermeulen, Chair, Board of Governors of Northern Lakes College said, "The graduates here today will be taking their first step into a new career or embarking on a new learning opportunity. There will be many opportunities along the way. Continue to seek out learning opportunities and most of all be passionate in everything that you do, for yourself, and others."

Ann Everatt, President and CEO of Northern Lakes College, congratulated the graduating class of 2018 with words of inspiration. She said, "Today we celebrate optimism and opportunity and we share in your excitement for what the future holds. Imagine all the possibilities, and take the first step towards your goals. I have no doubt in your ability to succeed."

Makayla Laboucan, Social Work Diploma graduate and valedictorian told her fellow graduates, "Unlike our textbooks, we are not able to skip through the pages of life to see how long the next chapter is going to be. Luckily, NLC has given us the paper and ink we need to write our stories, and with the love and support of our families, friends, and fellow classmates; our stories will become bestsellers".

Awards were given to a number of students in recognition of outstanding achievement in a variety of areas. The Board of Governors Scholarship, a prize honoring the exemplification of the philosophy of lifelong learning was awarded to Gloria Fierro, Early Learning and Child Care graduate from Driftpile

Cree Nation. Steven Dyck, University Studies graduate was awarded the Board of Governors Leadership Award for his involvement with the NLC Students' Association and his contributions to the community. The convocation ceremony concluded with celebratory song "The Champion" by Carrie Underwood.

The Practical Nursing students celebrated on Thursday May 31, 2018 with a traditional Capping and Pinning Ceremony. The ceremony is a 150-year-old tradition conducted in candlelight, a unique ceremony where each nursing student is presented with a nursing cap and pin. The Practical Nurse program graduated 58 students from Peace River, High Level, Grande Prairie and Slave Lake. Northern Lakes College is very proud of its graduates who now will be moving forward into the next exciting chapter of their journey.



Northern Lakes College is a multi-campus college located in northern Alberta and is focused on providing relevant, quality programs through a distributed learning model, serving over 6,000 students annually. To meet regional needs NLC offers a wide range of certificate and diploma programs in Business, Health Sciences and Allied Health, 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 and a Bachelor of Social Work. Northern Lakes College also provides a wide variety of professional accreditation and certificate programs through its Continuing Education and Corporate Training Department. Northern Lakes College houses the Woodland Operations Learning Foundation (WOLF) to provide Forestry and related post-secondary and professional development programs.

For additional information contact:

Valerie Tradewell
Senior Director, External Relations
Northern Lakes College
780-849-8621