



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 21, 2018**  
**Peace River, AB**

#### **Northland School Division and Northern Lakes College engage on program opportunities**

Northland School Division No.61 (NSD) visited Northern Lakes College (NLC) at the Peace River campus on May 10, 2018 to engage in conversation about career-learning opportunities for high school students. NSD has approximately 2600 students in 24 schools across their service region that covers 288,347 square kilometers.

Ten principals from NSD travelled to the Peace River Campus and toured the Mobile Trades Lab with Ann Everatt, President and CEO, and Cherie Friesen, Chair of Resource Technology Programs, Trades and Technology at Northern Lakes College.

"NLC provides innovative solutions so northern students can access education and the Mobile Trades Labs are a great example. The College has collaborated with over 20 schools across the service region on dual credit programs," said Ann Everatt, President and CEO at Northern Lakes College. "Working together with the Northland School Division we hope to create positive impacts for high school students that will support their educational success."

One of the highlights from the conversation between the two institutions was supporting career opportunities in rural communities. NLC's Mobile Trades Labs have the mobility to travel to rural communities and offer trades training. This will give high school students the opportunity to learn in their own community, be exposed to hands-on trade's experiences, and explore postsecondary education. Students will have the experience and ability to match their skillsets to future career opportunities.

NSD and NLC had an open discussion on the integration of NLC training opportunities into secondary school programming. "Our focus is developing a sustainable career training strategy for NSD students," said Gord Atkinson, Superintendent of Schools, Northland School Division. We hope our conversations with NLC will result in more opportunities for students."

Creating awareness about learning opportunities among high school students is critical, especially in communities that are traditionally under-served. Communities depend on a strong and skilled workforce to sustain future economic growth. NSD and NLC invest in students and support their career opportunities that in turn will move a community towards sustainability and growth.



*From left to right: Tim Stensland, Area 3 Associate Superintendent, Jill Gaudet, Paddle Prairie School Principal, Christoph Ruge, Area 2 Pedagogical Supervisor, Terri-Lynn McLeod, Mistassiniy School Vice-Principal, Ann Everatt, NLC President & CEO, Gord Atkinson, NSD Superintendent of Schools, Shelly Hamelin, Mistassiniy School Principal, Cal Johnson, Anzac School – Bill Woodward School Principal, Angela James, Career Pathways School Principal, Cherie Friesen, NLC Chair Trades & Resource Technology, Don Tessier, Pelican Mountain School Principal.*

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:**

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Northland School Division (NSD) is situated in some of the most stunning areas in northern Alberta. Covering 288,347 square kilometres, our schools are located near mountains, lakes, rivers, forests, and wetlands on Treaty 6 and 8 territories. We hold high respect for these traditional territories, their history, language, and culture. At NSD, 95% of the student population is of First Nations, Métis and Inuit descent. We have approximately 2600 students in 24 schools. Our schools are located in municipalities, First Nation reserves, and Métis Settlements.

**Commitment:** To inspire students to be the best they can be by providing outstanding holistic educational opportunities, with amazing staff and strong partnerships with families and communities.

**Vision:** “Our students love to come to school in Northland”

**For additional information contact:**

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