



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 26, 2018**

**Slave Lake, Alberta**

### **NLC and Keyano College Partnership: Recognizing an Opportunity when it arises**

Northern Lakes College and Keyano College are bringing back the Early Learning and Child Care Diploma program to the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. Keyano currently offers an Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Certificate through a full-time eight-month program over two semesters. The certificate program enables graduates to work in licensed daycares, out-of-school care programs, and preschool programs.

Earlier this year Northern Lakes College proposed a partnership to bring the diploma program back to the Wood Buffalo region through an online delivery option. ELCC Diploma program graduates are qualified to supervise work in a licensed childcare centre, out-of-school programs and preschools.

“We are very pleased to work in partnership with Northern Lakes College (NLC) to offer the option of a diploma program for our learners in the Wood Buffalo region,” said Dr. Vincella Thompson, Dean, School of University Studies, Career Programs and Academic Upgrading. “This collaboration opens up possibilities and opportunities for our colleges as well as our students.”

As a result of the partnership, established through a Memorandum of Understanding, the ELCC Diploma program will be offered online at Northern Lakes College in collaboration with Keyano College in the fall. While the diploma program will be delivered off-campus in Keyano College’s service region, students apply directly to Northern Lakes College and are recognized as NLC Students. They will be able to access Keyano’s campus supports and will receive many of the same benefits as in-class students.

Michelle Mitchell, Dean, Academic Quality & University Studies, Centre for Teaching & Learning at Northern Lakes College said, “We are very excited to partner with Keyano College to offer the Early Learning and Child Care Diploma program to students within the Fort McMurray region. We are

pleased to have the opportunity to work with students who will become Child Development Supervisors, and will support quality child care in our northern communities”.

The ELCC Diploma program is an excellent post-secondary opportunity, in particular for students who have previously obtained their ELCC Certificate. The ELCC Diploma program will teach students the skills and knowledge required to advance their career into administrative and supervisory positions within their field.



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

Keyano College is a multi-campus College serving the Wood Buffalo region. In collaboration with its Campus Alberta partners, Keyano is committed to expanding access to post-secondary education in the region through the provision of high-quality, relevant lifelong learning opportunities. The College is also an important community resource providing access to social, cultural, and recreational experiences. Keyano offers programs that lead to certificates, certificates of qualification (trades), diplomas, and baccalaureate degrees. The College also supports the development of professional knowledge and skills in the energy, construction, business, health and safety, arts, sciences, education, human services, and transportation sectors. A range of corporate training options are available to support business and industry training needs. The College has three campuses, two in Fort McMurray and one in Fort Chipewyan. High-quality, learner-centered instruction and support to rural and remote communities is provided via distance delivery and on-site Keyano learning centres in Fort McKay, Conklin, Janvier, and Gregoire Lake.

**For additional information contact:**

Greg Bennett  
Communications Coordinator, Marketing & Communications  
Keyano College  
780-742-3488