



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NLC & ATB Partner to Offer Student Financial Literacy Series

Slave Lake, Alberta (May 18, 2022): With the goal of providing financial literacy information and tools to students and employees, Northern Lakes College has partnered with ATB Financial to offer the Stepping Stones Program, a financial literacy series.

In 2020-2021, the Student Success department at Northern Lakes College conducted consultations with students to determine their wellness and related training needs. Students expressed their desire for opportunities to increase their financial literacy knowledge. Having partnered with ATB Financial in the past to deliver financial literacy programming, Northern Lakes College is pleased that they are willing to partner once again, even customizing their presentations for the College's specific student demographic.

"We are hopeful that these presentations will deliver targeted knowledge that our students will find useful in their everyday lives. Moreover, many of the topics explored in these sessions are relatable to students in their programs of study at NLC, such as Adult Basic Education, Academic Upgrading, and Business & Administrative Studies," comments Dr. Ashley Oostvogels, Dean, Student Success.

"ATB Financial is committed to helping Albertans develop their financial literacy skills. Through this partnership and program, we empower students with the relevant and necessary knowledge to manage their finances effectively and achieve their financial goals," comments presenter Justine Ricard, Branch Manager, ATB Financial, Slave Lake.

The series runs from May 16 to 20 and will be offered online in order to ensure access to all Northern Lakes College students and employees. Sessions include: TRANSACT, covering the ins and outs of managing a bank account; SAVINGS, exploring the importance of saving, setting financial goals, investing and interest, and types of saving plans; CREDIT, covering types of loans and credit, the meaning of a credit score, and how to build credit; and PROTECT, how to protect yourself and your money from scams or fraudulent activity and to keep personal information safe.

About ATB Financial

With \$57.1 billion in assets, <u>ATB Financial</u> is an Alberta-built financial institution that is a catalyst for economic growth in our province. We got started in 1938 to help Albertans through tough economic times. Today, ATB Financial's more than 5,000 team members love to deliver exceptional experiences to over 810,000 clients through our many branches and agencies, our 24-hour Client Care Centre, four entrepreneur centres, and our digital banking options.

About Northern Lakes College

A distance learning college, Northern Lakes College provides the most accessible and flexible educational opportunities through innovative delivery. Utilizing its unique Supported Distance Learning (SDL) model, NLC assists 5,000 students annually to continue their education, improve their employment opportunities, and enhance their quality of life. Committed to its communities in northern Alberta and to its students, wherever they may be, NLC collaborates with business, industry, and other post-secondary institutions to benefit students and communities. Explore at www.northernlakescollege.ca.

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