



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Northern Lakes College recognizes National Day for Truth & Reconciliation with launch of Virtual Indigenous Student Centre

Slave Lake, Alberta (September 29, 2023): Northern Lakes College recognized National Day for Truth and Reconciliation during the week of September 25 to 29 with the launch of *mamawapowin*, the Virtual Indigenous Student Centre. *Mamawapowin* is a Cree word which means “the act of coming together or an organized meeting.” This unique virtual space, accessible to all, has been created to support Indigenous students and those who want to learn about Indigenous culture. Visitors to the site will learn about Indigenous arts, the Elders in Residence program, and Indigenous Library resources, check out featured Indigenous authors, and read Indigenous student success stories. Visit the Virtual Indigenous Student Centre at <https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/VISC> .

The College also maintains a webpage, “Learn About Truth & Reconciliation”, with the purpose of increasing awareness about truth and reconciliation and the legacy of residential schools. The webpage includes learning resources such as videos, podcasts, articles, and stories from organizations such as the United Nations, CBC, National Film Board, Canadian Museum for Human Rights, and the National Centre for Truth & Reconciliation. In the spirit of reconciliation, we invite students, employees, and community members to view, listen, and share at <https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/about-us/truth-and-reconciliation>.

Students and staff wore Orange Shirts the week of September 30 to recognize the experiences of children who were taken from their families and placed in residential schools. The College also hosted an online art evening on September 27 with Métis artist, Angela Hall. The session, Rites of Passage Mandala, focuses on self-actualization, freeing the mind and emotions from the past, and renewing one’s source of empowerment through art.

Northern Lakes College respectfully acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 8 territory and Métis Nation of Alberta Districts 13 – 15 and 20 - 22, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis Peoples. We recognize the 15 First Nations and four Métis Settlements located throughout our service region.

Northern Lakes College (NLC) provides flexible educational opportunities through innovative delivery. With accessibility as a cornerstone value, we provide quality educational programs and services. NLC’s innovative Supported Distance Learning (SDL) and Supported Distance Teaching (SDT) models include unique online delivery options such as *NLC LIVE Online™* and *NLC Anytime, Anywhere*. SDL provides learners with the flexibility to balance work, home, and education, so that they can 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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