



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Northern Lakes College Offers Class 1 Driver Training**

**Slave Lake, Alberta (September 5, 2024):** Northern Lakes College began its inaugural offering of the Class 1 Mandatory Entry Level Training (MELT) on September 3 at the Slave Lake Campus.

MELT is the standardized, entry-level driver training program implemented by the Government of Alberta to ensure the safety of all those who share our province's highways. The training is mandatory for all new commercial Class 1 (tractor trailer) drivers. The primary goal of the MELT program is to teach new drivers the critical knowledge and skills that will create a foundation for safe driving, as well as foster the development of positive driving attitudes and behaviors in new commercial drivers.

Class 1 MELT includes components of classroom theory, in-yard practical teaching, and experience behind the wheel. Classroom training includes topics such as: traffic laws and regulations, safe driving practices, vehicle systems, and vehicle maintenance. In-yard training includes activities that occur around the vehicle when not in motion, such as vehicle inspections. In-cab training hours are spent behind the wheel, either on-road or off-road, in various conditions including coupling/uncoupling the truck and trailer and reversing exercises.

Northern Lakes College is keen to support the province's mandated safety training for all new Class 1 drivers. There is a persistent need for Class 1 drivers in our region and across the province, and these drivers are an integral aspect of the economy. Ensuring the availability of this training in our region means increased accessibility for students.

**Angie White, Chair, Trades & Resource Technology**

The next offering begins October 28 and is filling fast. For more information regarding eligibility requirements to get a Class 1 driver's licence, or to register, go to <https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/MELT>.

In the near future, NLC will also offer Air Brakes Q Endorsement, which includes a classroom session and practical training. Class 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 drivers must complete an approved course to get a Q Endorsement on their driver's licence to operate a vehicle equipped with air brakes.

For inquiries about MELT at Northern Lakes College, contact [drivertraining@northernlakescollege.ca](mailto:drivertraining@northernlakescollege.ca).

### **About Northern Lakes College**

*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](http://www.northernlakescollege.ca).*

For additional information contact:

Rachel Ouellette

Director, External Relations, Marketing & Communication

Office of the President

Northern Lakes College

[news@northernlakescollege.ca](mailto:news@northernlakescollege.ca)