



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Northern Lakes College Computer Network Specialist Program Launches Two New Cybersecurity Courses in Partnership with EC-Council Academia**

**Slave Lake, Alberta (October 6, 2025):** Northern Lakes College is proud to announce the expansion of its Computer Network Specialist program with the launch of two new cybersecurity courses, developed in partnership with EC-Council Academia, a leading provider of cybersecurity education and training. These new offerings are designed to equip students with the practical skills and professional certifications needed to thrive in today's digital-first economy. The new courses feature hands-on labs and certification opportunities for cybersecurity beginners and cloud security engineering.

The Computer Network Specialist program at Northern Lakes College prepares students to build, maintain, and support small business networks. With the increasing digitization of the workplace, the demand for professionals with expertise in networking, cybersecurity, and cloud computing continues to grow. The addition of Certified Secure Computer User (C|SCU) and Certified Cloud Security Engineer (C|CSE) further strengthens the College's commitment to providing industry-relevant, hands-on learning experiences.


### **Bridging the Gap Between Theory and Practice**

With courseware designed by EC-Council and delivered by Northern Lakes College, the new courses feature cloud-based, vendor-neutral virtual labs equipped with built-in cybersecurity tools and virtual machines. These labs provide students with a secure, controlled environment to apply cybersecurity concepts in real-world scenarios without the need to purchase additional hardware or software. By operating entirely in the cloud, the labs ensure that students' personal devices and the College's network remain protected, even as learners engage in advanced security exercises such as threat detection, vulnerability assessment, and incident response.

Upon completion of the courses, students are encouraged to independently pursue two globally recognized certifications: Certified Secure Computer User (C|SCU) and Certified Cloud Security Engineer (C|CSE).

Northern Lakes College is pleased to provide learners with the opportunity for, and access to, third-party and industry-recognized certification through EC-Council. Partnering with industry leaders enables the College to ensure our graduates have the relevant skills and knowledge to succeed in the ever-changing Information Technology workspace.

**Josh de Vries, Dean, Business, Academics, Trades & Regional Stewardship,  
Northern Lakes College**



We are excited to collaborate with Northern Lakes College to offer students hands-on cybersecurity labs and globally recognized certifications. These new courses will empower students to build real-world skills in a secure, cloud-based environment, expanding their skillset and bridging the gap between academic learning and industry readiness across highly sought after roles. Together, we look forward to shaping more workforce-ready students, equipped to meet the evolving demands of cybersecurity and cloud security.

**Wesley Alvarez, Director of Academics, EC-Council**

### **Cyber Fundamentals for Everyday Users**

Whether you are a student, professional, or simply someone who uses a computer daily, Certified Secure Computer User (C|SCU) will empower you to protect yourself and your organization from cyber threats. Learn how to safeguard personal data, recognize scams, and defend against malware, all in a hands-on, beginner-friendly environment. Designed for new cybersecurity learners, this course will provide foundational understandings of threats such as identity theft, phishing scams, malware, and social engineering. The certification is ideal for all computer users seeking to enhance their cybersecurity awareness and complements broader studies in networking and security.

### **Cloud Security Engineering: Build, Secure, and Lead in the Cloud**

The Certified Cloud Security Engineer (C|CSE) course offers a comprehensive blend of vendor-neutral and vendor-specific cloud security concepts. Students learn to configure and secure platforms such as AWS, Azure, and Google Cloud, while also exploring frameworks, regulations, and standards that govern cloud infrastructure security. This course is suited for both beginners and experienced professionals in roles such as network security, cybersecurity, cloud administration, and information security.

### **Empowering Students for the Future**

By integrating these certifications into the Computer Network Specialist program, Northern Lakes College provides students with the tools they need to succeed in high-demand technology careers. The hands-on labs and certification pathways offer a competitive edge in the job market and prepare graduates to meet the evolving challenges of cybersecurity and cloud computing.

[Apply now](#) for the January intake of the Computer Network Specialist program. Learn more about the [Computer Network Specialist](#) program at Northern Lakes College. Direct program questions to [businessprograms@northernlakescollege.ca](mailto:businessprograms@northernlakescollege.ca).

### **About EC-Council Canada**

*EC-Council's sole purpose is to build and refine the cybersecurity profession globally. They work with organizations, educators, governments, and individuals to address global workforce challenges by curating world-class cybersecurity education programs and certifications, while also providing cybersecurity services to some of the largest businesses around the world. EC-Council is trusted by*

*seven of the Fortune 10, 47 of the Fortune 100, the U.S. Department of Defense, the global intelligence community, NATO, and more than 2,000 of the best universities, colleges, and training companies worldwide. Through their partnerships with post-secondary institutions, EC-Council Academia works to empower students to grow their knowledge in cybersecurity, become certified, graduate, and ultimately become highly skilled cybersecurity professionals.*

**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:

Northern Lakes College @ [news@northernlakescollege.ca](mailto:news@northernlakescollege.ca)