



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 19, 2019

Slave Lake, Alberta

NLC Hosts Fourth Annual Mind Over Metal Welding Camp

Fourteen youth from the communities of Driftpile, Peerless Lake, Sucker Creek, Kinuso, Canyon Creek, Swan Hills, and Slave Lake celebrated the completion of the Mind over Metal welding camp at a luncheon and ceremony on Friday, July 12. Northern Lakes College hosted the camp from July 8 – 12 at the Slave Lake Campus.

Students learned the proper use of hand tools, the basics of Gas Metal Arc Welding, introduction to weld symbols, and welding safety, including a demonstration of how to extinguish a welding fire by the Lesser Slave Regional Fire Service. The program included a tour of a local welding shop, Heavy Equipment Repair in Slave Lake. Students completed four, take-home projects over the duration of the camp. The Mind over Metal welding camp was free to students, thanks to the generous sponsorship of the College and its partners, the CWB Welding Foundation, Shell Canada, and STELCO.

“These camps are specifically designed to provide youth with a hands-on introduction to welding and inspire them to pursue a career in welding. Students build confidence and have fun while being supervised by professionals in a safe environment,” says Susan Crowley, Executive Director, CWB Welding Foundation. “Through experiential learning opportunities like the Mind Over Metal welding camps, their newly sparked interest in welding may lead to further education and employment.”

Camp instructor Ralph Courtorielle comments, “The Mind Over Metal Camp is a fun way to show youth that welding is a rewarding career and there is also a lot of room to be creative and imaginative as a welder. It is important to show them what the trade is like at a young age so they can decide for themselves if that is a path they would like to choose.”

“Shell Canada welcomes the opportunity to partner on initiatives providing Indigenous youth from the region with exposure to the trades. The Mind Over Metal welding camp supports our commitment to community investment and building a future workforce,” comments Charlene Parker, Community Liaison for Shell Canada.

This was the fourth annual offering of the Mind over Metal Welding Camp, with the camp held in Wabasca in 2016, High Prairie in 2017, and High Level in 2018.



Mind Over Metal welding camp participants practice new skills.

Northern Lakes College (NLC), located in northern Alberta, provides quality programs through distributed learning to over 6,000 students annually. NLC offers certificate and diploma programs in Business, Health Sciences and Allied Health, Human Services, Technology, Trades, University Studies, and Academic Upgrading. The College collaborates with partners to offer degree completion opportunities, including a Bachelor of Education and a Bachelor of Social Work. NLC provides professional accreditation and certificate programs through its Continuing Education and Corporate Training Department.

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