

Expanding Education in the North

Northlands College *Mine School*

The Northlands College Mine School is an expansion of facilities and existing programming to train highly skilled individuals for the minerals industry. The Mine School ensures training relevance to industry requirements through increased interaction between the school and northern mining and exploration companies, as well as the contractors that serve the industry. Learning resources relevant to Northern Saskatchewan geology, ground conditions, and most importantly, human resources were developed to engage and enhance the Northern workforce's skills and availability. The Mine School has developed Digital Learning Resources for the Mine Engineering Technical program. The videos are based on the mining geology and ground conditions specific to northern Saskatchewan. Topics are Geology, the geology of northern Saskatchewan; and Ground Control, the technology of working with the rock in underground mining to ensure safety and mining efficiency.

The Mine School developed five new courses and has signed an MOU with the University of Saskatchewan for a Pre-Engineering and Science (PRES) program as well as established credit transfer agreements with other institutions to facilitate northern and Indigenous students having other pathways to careers in the minerals industry.

Academic courses were held at Air Ronge and at the Rabbit Lake Mine site.

Through the community career fair, the Mine School offers students a chance to come to the school and participate in demonstrations of the mine equipment simulators. The simulators give them a taste of what it would be like to be an underground miner or operate surface equipment at a mine, providing an opportunity for students, ranging grade 8 to 12, to explore the various options available in a mining career.



Mine Tech Program Graduates
June 19, 2015

The grand opening for the Mine School was on May 24, 2017 during Core Days in La Ronge. Core Days promotes northern mineral exploration, mineral properties, northern mine services, northern workforce and the Pre-Cambrian core library and includes a demonstration of skills by Mine School students. The event was attended by over 150 industry, government, and education representatives.

Course descriptions are available online at <https://trainnorth.ca/courses/>.

Student Statistics



The tables below were reported as of January 2018 and cover the project period.

New Academic Courses Created Due to Mine School:

Academic Course	Date Established	# of Graduates
Mine Engineering Technician	September 2014	17
Radiation Environmental Monitoring Technician	July 3, 2014	16
Underground Mining Hard Rock Core Training	September 15, 2014	7
Civil Technician	August 29, 2016	5
Power Engineering Technician	August 29, 2016	5
Pre Engineering and Science (PRES)	MOU Signed May 24, 2017	Starts fall 2017

New Academic Courses - Enrolled numbers:

	Enrolled	Graduate	Employed	Female	Male	Indigenous	Immigrants	Youth
2014								
2014-15	50	27	15	16	34	50	0	23
2015-16	24	13	5	10	14	22	0	15
2016-17	27	18	6	11	16	26	0	13
Total	101	58	N/C	37	64	98	0	51

Transfer of Credits with Other Institutions:

Academic Course	Institution
Civil Technician Certificate to Civil Engineering Technologies Diploma	Saskatchewan Polytechnic
Civil Engineering Diploma to University	UBC, Lakehead, Memorial, SAIT, Cape Breton
Mine Engineering Technician	Queens
Mine Engineering Technician	U of S

PROJECT INFORMATION:

Project Duration: June 2014 to June 2017

Project Cost: \$5,625,480
 IMII: \$1,841,000
 Federal Government: \$2,668,475
 Northlands College: \$ 815,760
 Other Partners: \$ 300,245

PROJECT PARTNERS:

International Minerals Innovation Institute (IMII)
 Western Economic Diversification
 Saskatchewan Government
 Canada's Advanced Research & Innovation Network
 Northlands College
 Industry and local businesses