

## **Northern Alberta Institute of Technology Mandate**

The Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) is a public, board-governed technical institute operating as a Polytechnical Institution under the authority of the *Post-secondary Learning Act* of Alberta.

As a Polytechnical Institution, NAIT fulfills its role and mandate by offering educational programs and engaging in applied research opportunities that are designed to meet the needs of learners, the economy, and society in Alberta and beyond. NAIT is committed to accessibility, innovation, and responsiveness through collaboration within the Campus Alberta system, and uses new approaches and new technology to deliver educational programs and facilitate collaboration.

Through a practical, hands-on, outcomes-based approach to education, NAIT attracts a diverse group of learners who achieve success in their chosen field and who contribute to the economy and society of Alberta and other regions. NAIT primarily serves learners from Northern Alberta and attracts learners from other regions of the province, as well as nationally and internationally.

NAIT provides learners with options for career and credential progression by offering academic upgrading, apprenticeship, certificate, and diploma programs, as well as applied and baccalaureate degrees in specified areas. As part of the coordinated post-secondary system, NAIT delivers programs in a broad range of fields including biological sciences, business, construction, electrical, electronics, engineering technologies, health technologies, hospitality and tourism, manufacturing, mechanical, media and information technologies, natural resources, transportation, and trades.

NAIT is valued globally for its excellence in trades, technology, and business. NAIT's campuses include specialized facilities in alternative energy, building environment technology, business, chemical studies, culinary arts, health sciences, information and communications, instrumentation, machinist, manufacturing, millwright, power engineering, piping systems, steel technologies, transportation, and a number of other technologies and trades. NAIT provides significant business incubator support for those seeking to create and develop new products and services. NAIT cultivates public and private partnerships that enhance student-learning outcomes, create transfer opportunities, and serve communities in which NAIT operates.

NAIT engages in innovative applied research in areas such as boreal forest reclamation, oil sands sustainability, green chemistry and engineering, sustainable business practices, productivity enhancement, and others as identified by industry. Applied research is designed to provide solutions to business and industry through the development of new technologies and processes, while scholarly activity is conducted to enhance NAIT's curriculum and the educational experience of faculty and students.

NAIT offers an environment where student athletes can excel, and a robust recreation program that promotes health and wellness. Through its continuing education department, NAIT offers a large selection of courses and programs through a variety of delivery methods, creating flexible learning pathways. In addition, NAIT offers customized training and workforce development for domestic and international corporate clients in key business and industry sectors.

NAIT believes in and fosters holistic student success through an integrated approach to academic quality and excellence, including the use of leading-edge technology and customer focused student services. Services for students are available through face-to-face and virtual interactions. The Aboriginal and International Student Centres provide additional support to help meet the cultural needs of learners.

In order to be competitive in a global economy, business and industry require a workforce with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to recognize and pursue opportunities, improve productivity, embrace change, and promote innovation. As an internationally recognized Polytechnical Institution, NAIT is a leader in equipping its graduates for success in the global economy.

*Approved by the Deputy Premier and Minister of Advanced Education and Technology,  
January 5, 2011.*