

NorQuest College Mandate

NorQuest College is a board-governed public college operating as a Comprehensive Community Institution under the authority of the *Post-secondary Learning Act* of Alberta. With campuses and learning sites across the Edmonton region, NorQuest enhances access to educational opportunities through its role as regional steward.

NorQuest provides high-quality learning opportunities that prepare graduates for careers and further studies in business, industry, health sciences, human services, early learning and education, and information, communication and design technologies. A leader in enhancing access to post-secondary education, the College is widely recognized for its foundational learning opportunities in academic upgrading, adult literacy, employment readiness and English as a Second Language education. Credentials granted by the College include certificates, diplomas, and applied degrees.

NorQuest students experience unique educational opportunities in a vibrant and supportive environment that is responsive to changing learner needs and dedicated to learner access and success. Faculty and staff are committed to academic excellence and to enriching co-curricular student life opportunities. At NorQuest, learners from diverse educational, cultural, and social backgrounds can achieve their personal and career goals and enhance their lives. NorQuest programming is sensitive to the cultural experience of Aboriginal learners, and learners for whom English is a second language. The College is a leader in meeting the needs of learners with disabilities.

As a Comprehensive Community Institution with regional stewardship responsibilities, NorQuest engages community partners to meet literacy and foundational learning needs and ensure access to a full spectrum of post-secondary learning opportunities. In rural and urban communities throughout the region, the College opens pathways for lifelong learning.

NorQuest is an active partner in Campus Alberta, collaborating with other post-secondary institutions, governments, business, and community agencies to enhance educational opportunities, strengthen the Alberta knowledge economy, and address the economic, societal, and cultural needs for education regionally and provincially.

NorQuest delivers educational opportunities to people where they live and work. The College provides flexible alternatives in both credit and non-credit programming, including transfer credits, career laddering, recognition of prior learning, bridging, general studies, and part-time study. Workforce training is customized to meet specific needs in communities and workplaces. Through our partnership with eCampusAlberta and other innovative distributed learning alternatives, the College serves students across Alberta, throughout Canada and around the world.

NorQuest is committed to enhancing teaching and learning through applied research that informs its academic programming and builds capacity in the communities it serves. The College's centres for excellence are engaged nationally and locally with partners in business, industry, government and communities, to develop innovative solutions to social and technological challenges.

NorQuest College contributes to a strong Alberta economy by developing the skilled workforce that both public and private sector employers require. Educated in an environment that emphasizes critical thinking, experiential learning, technology integration and intercultural competence, graduates of NorQuest College are global citizens and valued contributors in their communities.

*Approved by the Deputy Premier and Minister of Advanced Education and Technology,
June 17, 2010.*