

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

Established under the Post Secondary Learning Act (PSLA), the Board manages and operates the post-secondary institution within its approved mandate [PSLA Section 60(1)(a)].

The Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) is a public, board governed technical institute operated as a Polytechnic Institution under the authority of the *Post Secondary Learning Act* of Alberta.

As a Polytechnic Institution, NAIT fulfills its role and mandate by offering educational programs and engaging in industry-driven applied research designed to meet the needs of Alberta, students, and industry. 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 life-long learners who achieve success in their chosen field and who contribute to the economy and society of Alberta and other regions.

NAIT provides learners with options for career and credential progression by offering academic upgrading, apprenticeship programs, certificate and diploma programs, as well as applied and baccalaureate degrees in specified areas. 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 excellence in four program pillars: science, technology and the environment; health; business; and the trades. Additional priority areas and learner pathways focus on entrepreneurship, safety, sustainability, and energy. NAIT provides business incubator support for those seeking to create and develop new products and services and accelerate or launch new ventures. NAIT cultivates public and private partnerships that enhance student-learning outcomes, create career pathways, and serve communities in which NAIT operates.

NAIT engages in innovative applied research in areas such as boreal forest reclamation, oil sands sustainability, sustainable business practices, productivity enhancement, and others as identified by industry. Applied research is designed to generate immediate and identifiable impacts and 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 students can excel and a robust recreation program that promotes health and wellness. Through its credit and non-credit learning opportunities, 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 Polytechnic institute, NAIT is a leader in equipping its graduates for success in the global economy.

Approved by Minister of Advanced Education, June 16, 2014.