

# College of New Caledonia



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **CNC to offer mining technology program**

CNC signed an MOU with several partners Thursday that will bring mining technology training to northern B.C.

The memorandum of understanding between CNC, BCIT, Northwest Community College, Northern Lights College and School District 91 will provide for a collaborative delivery of the first year of BCIT's Mining Technology Diploma. The program will be accomplished through online delivery of the first year at CNC; learners will complete the second year by attending classes at BCIT.

"We are very excited to be able to provide the training and skills required in this growing industry," said CNC president John Bowman. "Part of what makes CNC so successful, is our ability to partner with other public institutions and industry."

The B.C. Mineral Exploration and Mining Labour Market task force stated in its study the mining industry needs to attract 15,000 new workers within the next decade. The task force estimates there will be 7,500 new job openings in the mineral exploration mining industry in B.C. through 2012.

"It's a perfect story of economic expansion, declining birth rates and the aging of the workforce that has hit the mineral exploration and mining sector hard, just as it is experiencing significant growth," said David Bazowski, chair of the task force on their website at [www.mining.bc.ca](http://www.mining.bc.ca)

Bowman, Robert Stevens, BCIT's Chair of Mining, and Ray LeMoigne, School District 91 superintendent signed the MOU Thursday during the Minerals North mining conference at the Prince George Civic Centre. Officials from Northwest Community College and Northern Lights College signed the MOU electronically.

"We are hoping to be able to offer the second year, or the Mining Technology

Diploma, in the future at CNC," said Lynn Jacques, vice-president academic.

The Mining Technology Diploma is scheduled to start in September 2011. The program will likely take up to 25 students in the first year of delivery.

CNC and its regional campuses have actively been engaged with the mining sector over the last several years, partnering with other post-secondary institutions to bring mining training to the regions and actively participating on a number of mining sector committees.

Prospective students who are interested in the Collaborative Mining Technology Diploma can learn more at [www.cnc.bc.ca](http://www.cnc.bc.ca)

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