

Prince George Citizen

CNC picks mining program

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A program aimed at developing skills for entry-level positions in the mining industry is in the works at College of New Caledonia.

Tentatively set to begin in September, the plan is to deliver the mining industry certificate through CNC's Lakes District, Nechako and Mackenzie campuses, "where we will work closely with aboriginal communities to provide access to the mining sector," academic vice president Lynn Jacques said in a report to CNC's board of directors.

Between 12 and 16 seats are to be available at each campus.

Next steps include presenting the curriculum to CNC's education council in May for approval.

Jacque said it's a reworking of a previous resource industry certificate that focused on lumber manufacturing and amounts to the first year of the British Columbia Institute of Technology's mining industry certificate.

Those who want to complete the two-year collaborative mining technician diploma program will be encouraged to attend BCIT for their second year.

There is also a hope the program can be expanded to high school students in the future.

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