

## INFORMATION BULLETIN 2018-01

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## **Commission Funds Indigenous Education Program**

The BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) is funding a pilot Indigenous Education Program in partnership with the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC), Vancouver Island University (VIU), Northern Lights College, and Northwest Community College. This pilot program will provide vocational training and scholarship opportunities for Indigenous students across the province and aims to help students access education that can benefit them and their communities.

The Commission and UNBC are partnering on a pilot training program to fund spaces for Indigenous students to take applied Natural Resources Management courses, including Environmental Monitoring Certificate programs via UNBC Continuing Studies. These courses are practical, hands-on, and provide students with industry-recognized qualifications upon completion.

Scholarships will also be available with Northern Lights College and Northwest Community College for Indigenous students that would like to study in the trades, vocational, arts/science or business degree programs. The scholarships will be open to Indigenous students who are in good academic standing, show dedication to their studies and demonstrate financial need.

A limited number of seats are available for the training programs at UNBC and VIU, and the Commission will work with Treaty 8 communities and several other First Nations to offer the pilot training opportunities. If the pilot is successful, the Commission will look to broaden its reach to other communities.

More information on the Indigenous Education Initiative, including eligibility and how to apply, can be found here.

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