

# CONNECTING THE NORTH THROUGH BROADBAND

Access to reliable broadband is important for the north. Challenges in accessing adequate broadband affects quality of life for many northern residents, along with economic growth, commerce, learning, and social connectivity. Through collaboration and innovative technology, the Northern Lakes College (NLC) Broadband for Learning project is working to improve broadband connectivity in the north and provide much-needed broadband services to rural and remote northern communities.

## PROJECT:

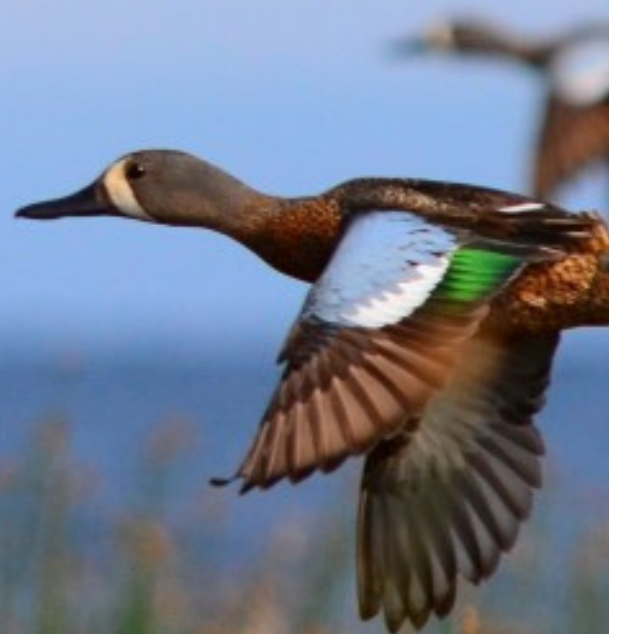
### NLC BROADBAND FOR LEARNING

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A multi-faceted collection of technology and entrepreneurial development initiatives, the Broadband for Learning initiative aims to improve access to broadband for students and communities within the college's service area.

In order to achieve this goal, NLC is working with various partners including:

- Community Education Committees
- Local Community Leaders, and the Northern Alberta Development Council



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Northern Trailblazers highlights stories of innovation and development in northern Alberta by showcasing initiatives, programs, and approaches undertaken by communities and businesses across the region.

Photo source: Northern Lakes College

# BRINGING A CRITICAL SERVICE TO COMMUNITIES

## WORKING TO CONNECT THE NORTH:

NLC is working to improve broadband access by developing and providing courses, programs, and offering bootcamps that support broadband and related entrepreneurship development in technology. Examples include a Computer Networking Certificate and Diploma program and Bootcamps on 3D Printing and Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered Chatbot for small businesses.

Community WiFi and Broadband Access initiatives bring reliable broadband to northern communities by offering:

- Free public WiFi at over 23 NLC campuses and public sites.
- Infrastructure sharing and co-location with institutional partners such as the Northland School Division.
- Joint community internet testing with Cybera, Alberta's not-for-profit technology accelerator.

FIND OUT MORE ONLINE AT: [HTTPS://WWW.NORTHERNLAKESCOLLEGE.CA/](https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/)