



December 6, 2018

UCN's Enrolment Grows by Nearly 42%

Enrolment at University College of the North (UCN) as of November 30th, 2018, has increased by 41.8% compared to the same time in 2017. Headcount enrolment, a count of unique individuals registered in programs, grew by a total of 641 students, increasing from 1,534 students in all programs at all locations on November 30th, 2017 to 2,175 students in all programs at all locations on November 30th, 2018.

"UCN has been working very hard to increase enrolment," said Doug Lauvstad, UCN's President and Vice-Chancellor. "I am very proud of our success – in fact, at 2,175 students, enrolment at this point in the Fall Term is already above the 2,051 enrolment count for the entire 2017/18 academic year. It is great to see increasing numbers of students choosing UCN!"

Enrolment changes at UCN reflect growth across its different campuses and in different program areas. Enrolment grew on average by 33% at UCN's main campuses in The Pas (a 35.6% increase) and in Thompson (a 32.9% increase), and by 59% in UCN's network of 12 Post-Secondary Access Centres and other off-site locations.

Certificate programs and workplace skills development account for most of the enrolment growth. Average enrolment in UCN's certificate programs increased by 27.9%, led by a 195.2% increase in students enrolled in the Health Care Aid certificate and a 60.8% increase in enrolment in the Educational Assistant Certificate. Additionally, enrolment in workplace and professional development courses in support of industry needs increased by 369.7%, growing from just 132 students in November 2017 to 620 students in November 2018.

"Our enrolment growth reflects hard work over the past year to increase our engagement with industry and with northern communities," said Dan Smith, Vice-President Academic and Research at UCN. "I am pleased to say that our effort has paid off with exceptional growth in industry-related and community-delivered programming. We are continuing to implement our recruiting strategy, focusing this year on increasing enrolment in degree and diploma programming, with the expectation that enrolment in those programs will increase for 2019/20. I'd like to congratulate our recruiters and all of our faculty and staff for their hard work connecting northerners with high quality and accessible education opportunities!"

The 2018 Manitoba Colleges Review noted that UCN needed to do more work to meet the needs of northern employers and with Indigenous and northern communities. UCN has accepted all of the findings and recommendations of the Colleges Review, and created an ambitious and wide-ranging response plan that included implementing a new student recruiting strategy. UCN's enrolment success reflects UCN's commitment to serving northern and Indigenous Manitobans.

For more information, please contact:

Jim Scott,
Director
Communications Department
University College of the North
P: 204-627-8244
E: jscott@ucn.ca