



University College of the North

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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University College of the North Accepts Donation to Automotive Technician Program from Great North GM

(The Pas, MB) – Great North GM donated two vehicles to the University College of the North (UCN) Automotive Technician program to help train students.

The donation includes a 2014 Chevrolet Cruze and a 2015 Chevrolet Impala. The vehicles are valued at more than \$16,000 when for sale.

“It is absolutely crucial to have industry partnerships. It allows us to give students with the latest vehicle technology that we otherwise would not have the means to acquire regularly,” said Riley Wlasichuk, UCN Automotive Technician Instructor. “It allows for a more relaxed learning environment as the automotive shop owns the vehicles.”

The donation came about during a regular conversation between Great North GM General Manager, Frank Lang and UCN Automotive Technician Instructor, Riley Wlasichuk. The conversation touched on the UCN program and some of the vehicles that were acquired. Lang mentioned Great North GM may have a few vehicles UCN could benefit from.



(L to R) UCN Instructor Riley Wlasichuk, Great North GM General Mgr. Frank Lang, and UCN Alumnae/Auto Service Tech. Kaitlee Stener.

“Growth is the big thing. In the north, you have to build a workforce,” said Frank Lang, Great North GM General Manager, “This will give them a hands-on training tool. Students can get the chance to get working hours on the vehicles.”

Automotive Service Technician, Kaitlee Stener, graduated from UCN’s program in 2019.

“It’s beneficial for students to work on vehicles like the ones that were donated because experience is the best teacher,” Stener said, “The donated vehicles might also take away any anxiety that students might have about making mistakes on someone’s personal vehicle.”

UCN’s Automotive Technician program is accepting applications for fall 2021 at ucn.ca.

University College of the North provides learning opportunities to northern communities while respecting diverse Indigenous and northern values.

[UCN.ca](http://ucn.ca)

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