

# NEWS RELEASE



Selkirk College

## **Tuition-Free Training Offered for Potential Transportation and Forestry Workers**

CASTLEGAR – Responding to specific needs in the region, Selkirk College has partnered with the federal and provincial governments in launching two tuition-free programs to get unemployed and under-employed residents the training they need to be job ready.

Starting in November, eligible individuals have an opportunity to enrol in Professional Driver Training (Class 1) or Safety in Resource Industry (Forestry Training).

“The programs are intended to provide enhanced employability opportunities for participants,” says Gregg Neelin, Manager of the Selkirk College Community Education & Workplace Training department. “Our staff have been meeting with employers throughout the region and asking a simple question: Are you short of workers? And, if so, how many do you need this year, next year, and in five years? The responses from employers have guided our training plan and we are encouraged by the support we have received.”

Employers in the trucking industry report a need for more than 120 Class 1 drivers annually and have endorsed the Professional Driver Class 1 Training program which Selkirk College has offered for the past two years in partnership with Mountain Transport Institute. Employers are offering their support to mentor participants through the four-week work experience module of the training program and participate in job readiness training.

The new licensed drivers will benefit from the work experience, gaining confidence and applying their new skills and expertise in a safe environment.

“We see our participation in the mentorship and professional development portion of this program as a real opportunity to assist in bridging the current gap between becoming a newly licensed Class 1 driver and actually having the skills and experience it takes to be considered employable as a Class 1 driver,” says Brandon Cox, Human Resources Manager at Sutco Transport.

Contractors in the forest industry have also reported a need for trained workers to fill more than 100 vacancies annually. To fill this need the Forestry Training program will provide skill set development, industry certification, and training needed by employers. The range of job positions available is considerable and trained workers will be able to pursue a wide range of employment opportunities regionally in the forestry and other resource sectors.

“I am in full support of this program and will continue to provide labour market data, help guide the training program development, mentor participants, provide quality assurance feedback and recruit workers from the program,” says Doug Harrison, owner of Apex Forest & Wildfire Services Ltd.

CONTACT:  
Bob Hall  
Community Liaison  
250.505.1324

# NEWS RELEASE



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These life changing training opportunities, along with a training allowance and personal safety equipment, are available tuition-free to eligible participants. Funding for these programs has been provided through the Canada-British Columbia Canada Job Fund Agreement .

If you are unemployed and not attached to EI, or under-employed, you may be eligible. For more information, visit [Selkirk.ca/ce/pbt](http://Selkirk.ca/ce/pbt) or email [pbt@selkirk.ca](mailto:pbt@selkirk.ca).

You can also check out the following information sessions:

Nelson Silver King Campus Room 16 November 6, 6:30 pm

Slocan W.E. Graham School, November 20, 6:30 pm

**PHOTO CUTLINE:** Selkirk College is offering tuition-free opportunities for unemployed and under-employed residents to get the training they need for careers in the transportation and forest industries.

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*For more information please contact:*

Gregg Neelin Selkirk College Community Education & Workplace Training 250-353-2618 ext: 2



BC JOBS  
PLAN



Canada

*Funding provided by the Government of Canada through the Canada-British Columbia Job Fund*

CONTACT:

Bob Hall

Community Liaison

250-505-1324



SAFETY IN RESOURCE INDUSTRY:

# FORESTRY TRAINING

*Get ready for entry level forestry work now! Make your resume stand out!*



## INFORMATION SESSIONS -

### Crawford Bay

Oct 15, 6:30 pm  
Learning hub

### Nelson

Nov 6, 6:30 pm  
Silverking Campus

### Nakusp

Oct 27, 12:00 pm  
311 Broadway St

### Salmo

Oct 28, 6:30 pm  
Salmo Secondary School

### Slocan

Nov 20, 6:30 pm  
W.E. Graham School

### Ymir

Oct 28, 4:30 pm  
Community Hall

## SCHEDULE -

### Crawford Bay

Nov 5 - Dec 5

### Nelson

Jan 26 - Feb 27

### Nakusp

Nov 12 - Dec 12

### Salmo

Jan 26 - Feb 27

### Slocan

Jan 5 - Feb 6

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit [selkirk.ca/ce/pbt](http://selkirk.ca/ce/pbt)

## TUITION-FREE TRAINING

Tuition, books and PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) free for qualified applicants.

## ELIGIBILITY DETAILS

Unemployed, non-EI clients OR

Employed, low-skilled individuals

- Legally entitled to work in Canada and living in BC
- Not be an enrolled in high school or post-secondary student
- Not currently participating in another LMA funded program

## EARN CERTIFICATES IN:

- Occupational First Aid – Level 1
- Transportation Endorsement
- WHMIS
- Supervisor Safety Management Training
- Hazard Recognition and Control Training
- Transportation of Dangerous Goods Training
- Chainsaw Handling and Safety Training
- S100/S185 Fire Suppression and Entrapment Avoidance Training
- Industry Rigging
- Fall Protection
- CSTS (Construction Safety Training Systems)
- Employment Success Foundation
- Reflection and Graduation
- Tree Identification
- Bear Aware
- ATV Training



BC JOBS  
PLAN



Canada

Selkirk College

Funding provided by the Government of Canada through the Canada-British Columbia Job Fund



# PROJECT BASED TRAINING COURSES

If you are unemployed or under-employed, you may be able to take advantage of this great opportunity for tuition-free training.

Get Job  
Ready



## PROFESSIONAL DRIVER TRAINING: CLASS 1

### PRE-REQUISITES

19 years of age, clean driver's abstract, clean criminal record

### SCHEDULE

#### CASTLEGAR

November 9, 2014 - January 24, 2015

November 30, 2014 - February 14, 2015

\*Training is 11 weeks in length.

### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

At the end of the training, participants will be able to carry out entry-level class 1 truck driving.

- Introduction to trucking industry
- Job readiness training
- Workplace skills - document use, production calculation and reports, computer use, team work, problem solving
- Class 1 license Training
- Certified Air Brakes endorsement
- Log Book instructions
- Chain Up Methods
- Transportation of Dangerous Goods

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

For additional information on the Project Based Training programs, visit [selkirk.ca/ce/pbt](http://selkirk.ca/ce/pbt).  
To see if you are eligible, please email [pbt@selkirk.ca](mailto:pbt@selkirk.ca).

## SAFETY IN RESOURCE INDUSTRY: FORESTRY TRAINING

### PRE-REQUISITES

18 years of age, physically fit and enjoy working outdoors.

### SCHEDULE

#### CRAWFORD BAY

November 5-December 5, 2014

#### NAKUSP

November 12 - December 12, 2014

#### SLOCAN

January 5 - February 6, 2015

#### NELSON

January 26 - February 27, 2015

#### SALMO

January 26 - February 27, 2015

### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

At the end of the training, participants will be able to carry out entry-level jobs on wildfire interface and trail building projects, fire suppression crews, and right of way vegetation management.

- Introduction to forestry industry
- Job readiness training
- Basic forest employment skills

