



First Nations Stewardship Technicians Training Program

VIU Admission Requirements:

- Participants must have Grade 10 or higher, be 19 years or older, be in good physical condition and have home internet service
- Participant Eligibility:
 - Members of First Nations in the North Vancouver Island and Central Coast Region
 - Employees of First Nations in the North Vancouver Island and Central Coast Region
- Have a demonstrated interest in environmental stewardship practices

Application Checklist:

To apply for the program, please submit the following:

- Nanwakolas Council Application Form
- VIU Application for Admission Form
- Resume and cover letter explaining why you are interested in the program
- Two reference letters

To Apply:

Fax your completed application with resume and references to the attention of:

Heidi Kalmakoff, Nanwakolas Council

Fax: 250.286.7222

or email heidikalmakoff@nanwakolas.com

To obtain an application form, please contact:

Heidi Kalmakoff, Nanwakolas Council at 250.286.7200

or email heidikalmakoff@nanwakolas.com

The **First Nations Stewardship** Technicians Training program reflects a collaborative partnership between Vancouver Island University and Nanwakolas Council Society focused on relational land-based learning.

Vancouver Island University is a Canadian postsecondary institution located on Vancouver Island with three campuses, the main campus is in Nanaimo, with regional campuses in Duncan and Powell River and a campus center in Parksville.

Nanwakolas Council Society is an alliance of five First Nations: Mamalilikulla First Nation, Tlowitsis First Nation, Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala First Nation, Wei Wai Kum First Nation and K'omoks First Nation.

For more information:

Heidi Kalmakoff, Nanwakolas Council, 250.286.7200 or email heidikalmakoff@nanwakolas.com

Maureen Thomas, Vancouver Island University, 250.667.5333 or email Maureen.Thomas@viu.ca



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The information contained in this guide is accurate at the time of printing. Vancouver Island University reserves the right to make such changes as necessary, including cancellation and adjustment of courses. Sept 2020



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The VIU community acknowledges and thanks the Snuneymuxw, Quw'utsun and Tla'amin, on whose traditional lands we teach, learn, research, live and share knowledge.

First Nations Stewardship Technicians Training Program

The First Nations Stewardship Technicians Training is an intensive twenty-week program focused on applied skills and knowledge to broaden your skills and expertise in the growing field of Indigenous resource stewardship. The First Nations Stewardship Training begins on November 16, 2020 and ends on April 9, 2021. This training program provides an Environmental Technician Certificate, seventeen university credits that can be applied toward further studies, as well as industry-recognized certificates applicable to many career paths.

Learning Outcomes

- **Environmental Protection:** Students will learn to act on relevant rules and regulations to safeguard the purity of water and fish health, implement appropriate reclamation strategies where required, and carry out their daily tasks to ensure sustainability and environmental protection.
- **Professionalism:** Students will be able to act in a professional manner, including: keeping equipment clean and prepared for others; treating others with consideration and respect; communicating effectively and appropriately; being accountable for their own actions; completing assigned tasks with confidence; and being humble and willing to learn from others and from their own mistakes.
- **Leadership and Interpersonal Communications:** Students will examine and critically analyze a variety of professional and interpersonal issues affecting leadership and communications in resource management settings.
- The Environmental Technician training is designed to address the nation-wide need for certified, skilled Indigenous environmental field technicians. The environmental training will train practitioners in in-demand environmental monitoring skills and abilities required to assist biologists, environmental technicians, engineers, hydrologists, and site restoration and environmental monitoring professionals.
- Student will learn how to make the most of opportunities by drawing on both the depth and the breadth of their learning.
- Student will emerge with a life-long love of learning and discovery.



Program Delivery

- Attendance is mandatory from Monday to Friday, seven hours a day of applied learning from November 16, 2020 to April 9, 2021.
- The training location is Campbell River.
- Tuition fees and learning resources are fully covered as is most travel and accommodations along with a living allowance (eligibility rules apply) during project timeframe.

Construction Site Monitoring (NREN 022)

Standard environmental monitoring for construction sites, including site planning, erosion control, in-water construction, and environmental project field skills.

Land Monitoring Skills (NREN 023)

Standard vegetation, soil and wildlife sampling and monitoring field skills for forestry and other terrestrial applications.

Essential Field Skills (NREN 024)

Learn and improve skills such as taking field notes, using key field equipment, following safety protocols, collecting data, reading maps, and navigating.

Water Monitoring Skills (NREN 025)

Water quality surveying and sediment and invertebrate sampling field procedures for both freshwater and marine sampling.

Fish and Fish Habitat Monitoring Skills (NREN 026)

Includes fish identification, fish habitat assessments and field measurements, field hydrology, fish inventory methods, and biological sampling.

Small Motors Servicing and Electrical Systems (RMOT 151)

Introduction to the operation and maintenance of small two and four-stroke engines. Emphasis is on stationary gas engines and outboard motors; includes troubleshooting and field repair tips.

Compliance Communications and Resource Monitoring (RMOT 165 Part One)

Gain knowledge of environmental legislation, improve communication skills, and learn safety protocols for conducting field checks to monitor compliance.

Compliance Communications and Resource Monitoring (RMOT 165 Part Two)

Advanced compliance monitoring skills, accurate notetaking, evidence gathering, and communication skills for dealing with non-compliance and potential conflict situations.

Intro to Parks and Protected Area Management (RMOT 202)

Examine park systems, management, facilities, and engagement of visitors and resource users.

Intro to Land and Marine Stewardship Case Studies (RMOT 251)

Intro to a range of First Nations resource management and protection topics from local experts, including marine and terrestrial wildlife habitat management and protection, ecosystem-based management, and marine plan implementation

Leadership & Interpersonal Communication Skills (RMGT 161)

This course is the study and practice of leadership and interpersonal communication skills for application in First Nations stewardship settings. Leadership and communication skills will give emphasis to working well on field crews, including personality types and leadership styles, well-functioning teams, dealing with difficult people and conflict resolution. Students will be acquainted with the theory and practice of leadership and interpersonal communications within group/team settings.

Indigenous Portfolio Workshops (ABOR 003)

Students will assess prior learning experiences through a cultural lens and a personalized portfolio along with resume development throughout the training program. Students will present their Indigenous Portfolio to the group.

RISC Archeology and Culturally Modified Tree Inventory (ABOR 053)

Learn how to undertake archeological inventories that contribute to management plans for cultural and heritage protection.

Cultural Awareness (ABOR 055)

Focused on Indigenous Nations of North Vancouver Island, students learn about Indigenous history, the impacts of Canadian colonialism including the residential school system. Other topics include Indigenous laws, governance, understandings, and knowledge related to stewardship of the land and seas. This course includes relational land-based learning and is led by a local cultural knowledge keeper.

Introduction to Forest Resource Management (FRST 256)

An introduction to forest resource management, as it is practiced in British Columbia. Topics include biogeoclimatic ecosystem classification, identification and ecology of some major tree species and site indicator plants, forest ecosystem functions and services, stand development, planning and sustainability, forestry legislation, harvesting and silviculture practices, forest health and fire protection.

Marine First Aid Level 3

Comprehensive first aid and CPR techniques and scenarios for those who need a higher level of training to work and respond to emergencies in a marine setting.

Swiftwater Rescue Technician - Level 1.

This comprehensive swiftwater course puts the emphasis on identifying risks, self rescue, and low-risk options for rescuing others. The SRT1 is the "standard-of-care" or recommended training for those who work **in or on** moving water and is recognized across Canada and around the world.