

# Post-Secondary Survey

Institution	Student Pop.	Faculty*	Tuition/Yr.	Open House	Online	Bragging Rights	Some of the Programs Offered
<b>Alberta College of Art and Design</b> Est. 1926 www.acad.ab.ca admissions@acad.ca (403) 284-7600	1,000 FT 2,500 Total (includes part-time)	38 / 44	\$3,740	October	No	One of only four degree-granting art and design colleges in Canada. Exchanges with 34 other art schools worldwide. Strong visiting artist program (e.g., Attila Richard Lukacs, DJ Spooky). Recently celebrated its 75th anniversary.	Eleven degrees in fine arts (ceramics, drawing, fibre, glass, interdisciplinary studies, jewellery and metals, media arts, painting, photographic arts, printmaking, sculpture) and a degree in visual communications.
<b>Athabasca University</b> Est. 1970 www.athabascau.ca counselling@athabascau.ca (800) 788-9041	24,136 Total	104 / 117	\$4,960	Virtual tours online	Yes	Canada's premier online university. Serves students in 69 countries. Open admission policy means anyone 18 or older is eligible, regardless of educational background. In 2002, received a Commonwealth of Learning Award of Excellence for Institutional Achievement.	More than 550 courses and 60 graduate and undergraduate programs offered through distance and online learning. Some of the most popular include administration, nursing-post RN and professional arts (which includes majors in criminal justice, communications and human services). Largest distance MBA program in the country.
<b>Bow Valley College</b> Est. 1965 www.bowvalleycollege.ca info@bowvalleycollege.ca (403) 410-1400	3,174 FT 10,000 Total	142 / 42	\$3,300	April	Yes	One of the largest ESL educators in Canada. Recent honours include C-CALA Life of Learning Award, Canada Post Literacy Awards, United Way Community Spirit Awards and Laura Crawford Award of Excellence in Nursing Education.	Training in aboriginal studies, accounting, art, child care, English as a second language, first aid/CPR, graphic design, health, investigations and security, legal aide, nursing, tourism and hospitality, public relations and teaching.
<b>Fairview College</b> Est. 1951 www.fairviewc.ab.ca registrar@fairviewcollege.com (780) 835-6600	Not available	49 / 30	\$2,600	February	No	Offers one of few equine studies diplomas in the province. This summer, the college will launch a new six-week horsemanship and ESL program.	Training in animal health, business, construction, mechanics, parts and distribution, power engineering and turfgrass.
<b>Grande Prairie Regional College</b> Est. 1965 www.gprc.ab.ca studentinfo@gprc.ab.ca (780) 539-2944	1,732 FT 2,425 Total	97 / 40	\$2,400	February	Yes	Designed by world-renowned architect Douglas Cardinal. Campuses in Grande Cache, Hinton and Slave Lake. Music, art and drama program (MAD) brings visiting artists to campus for lectures and performances.	Applied degree in forest resource management. Certificates in administrative technology, disability support, early childhood development, power engineering, visual arts and a number of university transfer programs.
<b>Grant MacEwan College</b> Est. 1971 www.macewan.ca info@macewan.ca (780) 497-5040	9,313 FT 15,881 Total	175 / 392	\$2,510	November	Yes	Won the 2003 CBIE Outstanding Program in International Education award for their Health Education Link project. The highest university transfer rate of all Alberta colleges.	More than 60 diploma and certificate programs in such areas as performing arts, health sciences, business and law. Four applied degrees, including a bachelor of communications in professional writing.
<b>Keyano College</b> Est. 1965 www.keyano.ca registrar@keyano.ca (800) 251-1408	3,000 FT	85 / 44	\$2,262	—	No	Meets local training needs of the oil sands industry and is the cultural hub of the community for theatre, arts and music. The Syncrude Technology Centre was completed this year after a multimillion-dollar campus expansion.	Business and technology, health and human services, visual and performing arts, heavy industrial and university studies. Recently launched an aboriginal entrepreneurship program.
<b>Lakeland College</b> Est. 1913 www.lakelandc.ab.ca admissions@lakelandc.ab.ca (800) 661-6490	1,501 FT 1,701 Total	80 / 51	\$2,845	February	Yes	Offers the only ranch and feedlot rider certificate program in western Canada. Now celebrating its 90th anniversary, the college expects to open a campus in Sherwood Park in 2005.	Environmental protection technology, interior design, heavy oil operations technician, university transfer, crop technology, networking technology, adventure tourism and outdoor recreation, teacher assistant and rehabilitation services.

\*Ratio of permanent to sessional full-time-equivalent academic staff  
 Source: Alberta Learning via Alberta Colleges & Institutes Faculties Association



## Ecotourism in Medicine Hat

by Amber Bowerman







Imagine snowshoeing through Kananaskis Country on a class trip or travelling to the base of the Rincón de la Vieja volcano in Costa Rica for a college course assignment. For the 24 students who will be accepted into the Ecotourism and Outdoor Leadership program at Medicine Hat College next fall, those are the sorts of adventures they can look forward to en route to earning one of the most in-demand applied degrees offered in Alberta.

Ecotourism, defined by The International Ecotourism Society as “responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and sustains the well-being of local people,” thrives here, where a rich natural heritage, booming economy and multibillion dollar tourism industry already draw roughly 20 million visitors annually. Medicine Hat College launched its Ecotourism and Outdoor Leadership applied degree program in 1999 in response to explosive growth in the field. “I’ve heard it over and over in the last five years that ecotourism is the fastest growing segment of the tourism industry,” says Paul Radchenko, the program’s coordinator. “There are a lot of jobs out there and we’re trying to keep up.”

Medicine Hat College is one of only a handful of North American institutions to offer this degree. The three-and-a-half-year program offers students six streams of study. A combination of classroom work, field studies and two four-month work terms prepares students for careers in the national and provincial parks system, interpretive exploration, adventure travel or conservation.

Though Alberta’s scenery draws millions of tourists each year, the resource-based economy here poses some serious hurdles to ecotourism. According to Radchenko, our dependency on the oil and gas industry and the changing policies in our parks—such as a recent move to open up more drilling rights in Big Horn Country near Banff National Park—all conflict with the theories of conservation and minimized impact that drive ecotourism.

However, many Albertans are starting to look more carefully at the impact they have on natural areas, Radchenko says. Ongoing drought, climate change and energy shortages in Alberta all encourage the philosophies behind ecotourism by making us “analyze our daily lives, how we use water and power and the impact we have on the environment.”

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<b>Lethbridge Community College</b> Est. 1957 www.lethbridgecollege.ab.ca info@lethbridgecollege.ab.ca (800) 572-0103	4,252 FT 7,132 Total	160 / 97	\$2,814	April	Yes	Canada's first public community college. Home of Alberta's Aquaculture Centre of Excellence for applied research. High-quality career training with strong partnerships in the community.	Applied degrees in corrections and in conservation enforcement. Certificates and diplomas offered in: business, agriculture, education, communications, multimedia, computers, criminal justice, engineering, environmental sciences, hospitality and culinary.
<b>Medicine Hat College</b> Est. 1964 www.mhc.ab.ca info@mhc.ab.ca (877) 282-8394	2,000 FT 2,500 Total	92 / 81	\$2,600	February	Yes	Largest area of concentration is in health and human services for training in nursing, addictions counseling, massage therapy and support for the deaf and blind. Operates remote campuses in Brooks, Alberta, and in China.	Diplomas, university transfers and applied degrees in aviation, ecotourism, fitness and lifestyle promotion, global tourism and marketing, practical nursing, social work, visual communications and more.
<b>Mount Royal College</b> Est. 1910 www.mtroyal.ca admissions@mtroyal.ca (403) 240-0418	6,778 FT 12,105 Total	203 / 251	\$3,500	November	Yes	Recognized nationally for excellence in communications (particularly public relations, journalism and broadcasting), business and entrepreneurship, and interior design. \$175-million expansion will add 2,250 new student spaces.	Applied degree programs, including business and entrepreneurship, international business and supply chain management, communications, industrial ecology, interior design, ecotourism and outdoor leadership and non-profit studies. University transfer programs in arts, commerce, science and other areas.
<b>NAIT</b> Est. 1963 www.nait.ab.ca registrar@nait.ab.ca (800) 661-4077	17,000 Total	520 / 30	\$2,768	October	Yes	Trains 45 per cent of Alberta's apprentices, (14 per cent of all such training in Canada). Of 32 apprenticeship programs in Alberta, 14 are exclusive to NAIT, including communications electrician, gasfitter, insulator and power lineman.	More than 190 programs and 32 apprenticeship programs in applied building science, applied media and information technology, business, health sciences, hospitality, electrical technology, mechanical and manufacturing technology, resources and environmental management.
<b>NorQuest College</b> Est. 1965 www.norquest.ab.ca info@norquest.ab.ca (780) 422-2020	848 FT 1,015 Total	62 / 136	\$2,600	Scheduled by department	No	Largest practical nurse program in Canada. Largest health-care aide program in Alberta.	Training in health and human services, business, pre-trade and service careers, academic upgrading, employment preparation and English language training.
   							
<b>Northern Lakes College</b> Est. 1970 www.northernlakescollege.ca info@yourfuture.ab.ca (866) 652-3456	1,236 Total	70 / 15	\$3,360	Ongoing tours	Yes	Large variety of options for academic upgrading. Campuses in 23 Alberta communities, including Athabasca, East Prairie, Fort Vermilion, Slave Lake, Swan Hills and Valleyview.	Diplomas, certificates and some university transfer programs. Students can complete their third and fourth year of Bachelor of Social Work and Bachelor of Education degrees at Northern Lakes College.
<b>Olds College</b> Est. 1913 www.oldscollege.ca info@admin.oldscollege.ab.ca (800) 661-6537	1,300 FT 7,300 Total	56 / 14	\$3,437	April	No	Awarded a certificate of recognition for Excellence in Health and Safety and the Premier's Award of Excellence for the Alberta Reduced Tillage Initiative.	Applied degrees in horticulture technology and agricultural technology and entrepreneurship. Other areas of study include land and water resources, agricultural business, animal health technology, equine science, fashion production, land administration, meat processing and commercial floristry.
<b>Portage College</b> Est. 1999 (1968: AVC Lac La Biche) www.portagec.ab.ca info@portagec.ab.ca (780) 623-5551	1,656 FT 1,843 Total	81 / 10	\$2,736	Every two years, TBA	Yes	Fourteen campuses in northeastern Alberta. A member of the Alberta-North educational partnership, which offers programs to residents in northern communities through distance learning.	Five diplomas and 24 certificate programs in business, health and wellness, human services, native arts and culture, trades and technical skills and university studies. Also provides academic upgrading and training for apprentice welders and wildland firefighters.
<b>Red Deer College</b> Est. 1963 www.rdc.ab.ca inquire@rdc.ab.ca (888) 732-4630	5,000 Total	170 / 88	\$2,624	Oct/Nov	Yes	Offers the only Bachelor of Applied Motion Picture Arts degree in Alberta.	More than 40 university transfer programs and five applied degrees. Also offers diplomas and certificates in carpentry and construction, early childhood development, hospitality and tourism, music, nursing, social work and visual arts.

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<b>SAIT</b> Est. 1916 www.sait.ca advising@sait.ca (877) 284-7248	12,686 FT 15,737 Total	572 / 0	\$2,906	February	Yes	Strong partnerships with industry have created Centres of Technology (e.g., Centre for Rail Training and Technology; TransAlta epiCentre), which offer students links with future employers and the opportunity for hands-on learning.	Four applied degrees, 79 diploma and certificate programs, 26 pre-employment and apprenticeship programs in seven academic departments: business and tourism, health and public safety, manufacturing and automation, information and communications technologies, construction and transportation.
<b>University of Alberta</b> Est. 1906 www.ualberta.ca info@ualberta.ca (780) 492-2325	26,572 UG 3,322 Grad 3,772 PT	1,480 / 9	\$4,032	October	Yes	Renowned for quality of teaching. Has received the most 3M Teaching Fellowships—Canada's award for undergraduate teaching excellence. Over 400 research labs and 9 million books. Pioneered world's first successful treatment for Type 1 diabetes. Home of the \$120-million National Institute for Nanotechnology.	Canada's only bilingual business degree is one of the 200 undergraduate programs offered. Offers 170 graduate programs in everything from anthropology to drama to engineering to medicine.
<b>University of Calgary</b> Est. 1966 (1945-1966: UAC) www.ucalgary.ca uofcinfo@ucalgary.ca (403) 220-6920	20,803 UG 3,041 Grad 3,704 PT	1,527 / 754	\$4,380	November	Yes	Home to 30 research institutes and centres. The MBA offered through the Haskayne School of Business was ranked in the top 100 in the world by the London Financial Times in January. One of the largest faculties of social work in Canada.	Eighty-three undergraduate programs, and graduate degrees in 50 disciplines, including the only Bachelor of Health Sciences program in Western Canada, the only dance program between Toronto and Vancouver and the province's only degree programs in social work at the bachelor's, master's and doctorate levels.
<b>University of Lethbridge</b> Est. 1967 www.uleth.ca inquiries@uleth.ca (403) 320-5700	6,248 UG 93 Grad 894 PT	>340 FT	\$4,298	Tours arranged 403-329-2762	Yes	Offers the only Native American studies degree program in the province and Canada's only addictions counseling degree program. Excellence in teacher training with extended practicum. Outstanding research in water resources and teaching effectiveness. Huge art collection (includes eight Picassos). Designed by renowned architect Arthur Erickson.	More than 150 program options in arts and science, health sciences, management, education, fine arts and graduate studies. Master's degrees and PhD programming available. Campuses in Calgary and Edmonton offer management courses.

