

College of New Caledonia
BRITISH COLUMBIA • CANADA



Two-Year Commercial Pilot Diploma Program Feasibility Study

College of New Caledonia
Nechako Campus

October 2009

Susan Mooney, B.S., M.A.



Western Economic Diversification Canada
Diversification de l'économie de l'Ouest Canada



Acknowledgements

Funding for this study was provided by Western Economic Diversification Canada and Northern Development Initiative Trust. Without this financial assistance, this feasibility study would not have been possible.

Thank you to the organizations that provided letters of support for the funding request: the District of Vanderhoof, Guardian Aerospace - Vanderhoof, and School District #91-Nechako Lakes.

A particular thank you to the individuals who served as members on the Steering Advisory Committee, for all your time, support, and dedication:

Ben Berland	Carrier Sekani Tribal Council
Barry O'Brien	Community Futures Development Corporation
Kathie LaForge	District of Vanderhoof
Eric Stier	Guardian Aerospace - Vanderhoof
Tom Schaff	Interior Helicopters - Fort St. James
Jennifer Schaff	Interior Helicopters - Fort St. James
Grant Luck	Interior Helicopters - Fort St. James
Jerry Petersen	Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
Ray LeMoigne	School District #91 - Nechako Lakes
Eugene Marks	School District #91 - Nechako Lakes
Andy Sundahl	School District #91 - Nechako Lakes
Erin Siemans	Vanderhoof Chamber of Commerce
Fraser Deacon	16/97 Economic Alliance
Cathe Wishart	16/97 Economic Alliance/College of New Caledonia
Maureen Mallais	College of New Caledonia

To the personnel who were interviewed from Selkirk College, BCIT, Pacific Flight Club, University of the Fraser Valley, Coastal Pacific Aviation, Montair, and Sky Helicopters, thank you for providing information regarding your programs.

Special thanks to Eric Stier of Guardian Aerospace, Wayne Cave and Marion Harris of Coastal Pacific Aviation, and Cyrus Chaichian, Mark Breeveld, and Asif Salam of the University of the Fraser Valley for all of your insights and suggestions on how to best structure a program to benefit the region, fit the needs of the industry, and promote aviation in the province as a whole.

Lastly, many thanks to all of the Northern Air Operators across northwest Canada (northern British Columbia, Yukon, western Northwest Territories, and northwest Alberta) and southeast Alaska who participated in the Northern Air Operator Survey. Your invaluable input has helped to guide planning for the proposed program and promote its northern aviation emphasis.