



Government  
— of —  
Saskatchewan

Minister of Advanced Education

Legislative Building  
Regina, Canada S4S 0B3

March 18, 2026

Nick Daigneault, Chair  
Board of Governors  
Northlands College  
PO Box 1000  
AIR RONGE SK S0J 3G0

Dear Nick Daigneault:

Saskatchewan's 2026-27 Budget will protect the stability of our post-secondary sector with ongoing predictable investments. Funding from the Ministries of Advanced Education and Immigration and Career Training will support students as they pursue higher education and will invest in training opportunities that align with labour market needs and our growing economy.

The Government of Saskatchewan is pleased to invest \$13,169,000 in Northlands College for the fiscal year April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027. Appendix 1 provides a high-level summary of the funding allocation, while Appendix 2 outlines comprehensive details, including the breakdown and intended application of these funds.

A strong post-secondary education sector is essential to building Saskatchewan's labour force and economy. That's why our government is proud to support the new *Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Education Multi-Year Operating Funding Memorandum of Understanding 2026-27 to 2029-30*. This agreement delivers funding certainty for post-secondary institutions, requires annual tuition increases to be within the range of 0 to 3.0 per cent for students and includes annual accountability reporting which demonstrates progress in priority areas that support the goals of *Saskatchewan's Growth Plan*.

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As a signatory to the *Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Education Multi-Year Operating Funding Memorandum of Understanding 2026-27 to 2029-30*, Northlands College will receive an annual 3.0 per cent increase to its base operating grant beginning in 2026-27. As shown in Appendix 1, the 1.0 per cent increase provided in 2025-26 has been made permanent.

The Ministry of Advanced Education has increased Northlands College's base operating grant by \$435,000 to transition to a unified funding approach. This change eliminates separate allocations for collective bargaining costs and requires institutions to manage all operating expenses within their operating grant. The unified model promotes consistency and sustainability across Saskatchewan's post-secondary sector.

Program investments in 2026-27 are intended to address the training and labour market needs of priority sectors outlined in the *Saskatchewan Labour Market Strategy*. The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to ensuring Saskatchewan people are prepared for the high-quality jobs being created in our province and that training is aligned with employer demand.

Achievements under the four pillars of the *Health Human Resources Action Plan*—Recruit, Retain, Train, and Incentivize—demonstrate the value of investments that expand opportunities for students in essential health-related programs. These investments reflect the province's strong commitment to working closely with post-secondary institutions and health partners to grow health training programs and strengthen Saskatchewan's future workforce.

Capital funding in the 2026-27 Budget is focused on addressing urgent labour market needs, particularly within the trades and health care sectors. Investments are prioritized to ensure post-secondary institutions are equipped to prepare students for the province's evolving workforce needs. The Budget also continues to prioritize investment in preventative maintenance to address safety, functionality, and the provision of healthy learning environments.

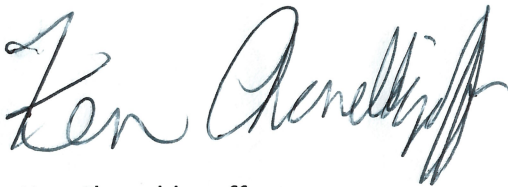
The Government of Saskatchewan provides targeted operating, programming and capital funding for approved initiatives and projects. These funds must be used exclusively for eligible expenses related to the approved purpose and in compliance with all reporting and accountability requirements. Any use of targeted funds outside the approved scope requires prior written authorization.

Ministry officials will be in contact with representatives at your institution to discuss the following accountability criteria within the *Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Education Multi-Year Operating Funding Memorandum of Understanding 2026-27 to 2029-30*:

- **Confirmation to comply with the manner and form of the accountability requirements** – due April 15, 2026; and
- **Multi-Year Funding Accountability Report** – due September 15, 2026.

Saskatchewan's future prosperity and success depend on an educated population and a skilled, innovative workforce. We appreciate Northlands College's role in helping us meet the goals in *Saskatchewan's Growth Plan* and look forward to our continued collaboration.

Sincerely,



Ken Cheveldayoff  
Minister of Advanced Education



Eric Schmalz  
Minister of Immigration and Career Training

#### Attachments

cc: Michael McCormick, President and CEO, Northlands College  
Catherine Koch, Vice-President, Finance, Administration and Sustainability,  
Northlands College  
Louise Michaud, Deputy Minister of Advanced Education  
Drew Wilby, Deputy Minister of Immigration and Career Training

**APPENDIX 1**  
**Detailed Schedule of Funding**  
**Northlands College**

**Funding Schedule April 1, 2026 - March 31, 2027**

	<b>2026-27 Funding</b>	<b>2025-26 Funding</b>
<b><u>Operating</u></b>		
Prior Year Base Operating Grant and University Programming	\$ 9,546,000	
MYF MOU* Base Adjustment	435,000	
1% Increase (2025-26)	95,000	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 10,076,000</b>	
MYF MOU* 3% Increase	302,000	
<b>Base Operating Grant</b>	<b>\$ 10,378,000</b>	<b>\$ 9,546,000</b>
<i>Health Human Resources Action Plan</i>	140,000	
1% Increase (2025-26)	—	95,000
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>\$ 10,518,000</b>	<b>\$ 9,641,000</b>
<b><u>Training Programs and Services</u></b>		
Skills Training	1,485,000	2,385,000
Essential Skills	769,000	2,240,000
<b>Total Training Programs and Services</b>	<b>\$ 2,254,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,625,000</b>
<b><u>Capital Transfers</u></b>		
Preventative Maintenance and Renewal	387,000	567,000
<b>Total Capital Transfers</b>	<b>\$ 387,000</b>	<b>\$ 567,000</b>
<b><u>Student Supports</u></b>		
Saskatchewan Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship	10,000	10,000
<b>Total Student Supports</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>\$ 13,169,000</b>	<b>\$ 14,843,000</b>

**Funding Source:**

Saskatchewan Ministry of Advanced Education	\$ 10,915,000
Saskatchewan Ministry of Immigration and Career Training	2,254,000
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>\$ 13,169,000</b>

\*MYF MOU = Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Education Multi-Year Operating Funding Memorandum of Understanding 2026-27 to 2029-30

**APPENDIX 2**  
**Funding Details**  
**Northlands College**

**Operating**

The 2026-27 total operating grant of **\$10,518,000** for Northlands College includes:

**Base Adjustment**

Under the *Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Education Multi-Year Operating Funding Memorandum of Understanding for 2026-27 to 2029-30*, the Ministry of Advanced Education has increased the base operating grant by **\$435,000** to remove separate annual allocations for collective bargaining costs. This updated funding method creates a consistent approach across the publicly funded post-secondary sector. As of April 1, 2026, Northlands College is responsible for managing all operating expenses within its overall operating grant.

**University Programming**

The 2026-27 Budget includes **\$2,766,000** for university programming. This includes adding the 2025-26 increase of \$27,000 (1%) to the base grant and an \$81,000 (3%) increase in 2026-27.

**Disability Supports Grant**

The 2026-27 Budget includes **\$51,000** to assist students with disabilities in non-post-secondary education studies, including Adult Basic Education, Canadian Adult Education Credential, skills training and apprenticeship programs. This includes adding the 2025-26 increase of \$500 (1%) to the base grant and a \$1,500 (3%) increase in 2026-27. Funding is for exceptional education-related services and equipment that support the student's disability and individual circumstances. Northlands College is responsible for providing guidance and arranging the necessary accommodations to meet the student's needs and successfully participate in their studies.

Post-secondary institutions are required to report on the number of students supported and the types of supports provided through this funding **in your annual report**.

**Outside the 2026–27 Operating Grant**

Some items funded directly by the Ministry of Advanced Education are not part of the 2026–27 operating grant and include:

- \$371,000 for the Mistasinik Place lease (Ministry of SaskBuilds and Procurement);
- \$79,000 for CommunityNet (CNet) network circuit costs for high-speed broadband services (SaskTel); and
- \$10,000 for your institution's yearly Saskatchewan Research Network (SRNET) membership that provides the benefits of cybersecurity and shared procurement services while connecting Saskatchewan's education, research and innovation sectors.

### **Health Human Resources Action Plan**

The 2026-27 Budget includes \$140,000 in operating funding to support the Continuing Care Assistant Pilot. This funding will be provided as required to support program delivery needs.

### **Training Programs and Services**

#### **Skills Training**

The Ministry of Immigration and Career Training is committed to delivering accredited programs that meet labour market needs, support employers across sectors, and strengthen Saskatchewan's economy. Funding for Northlands College's 2026-27 Skills Training programming is as follows:

<b>Programs</b>	<b>2026-27</b>	<b>2025-26</b>
Skills Training Allocation	\$ 1,210,000*	\$ 2,110,000
<b>Health Human Resources Action Plan</b>		
• Continuing Care Assistant Pilot	200,000	200,000
Skilled Trades Expansion	75,000	75,000
<b>Skills Training Funding</b>	<b>\$ 1,485,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,385,000</b>
Approved Skills Training Allocation Reserve Use	900,000	—
<b>Total Available for Skills Training Programming</b>	<b>\$ 2,385,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,385,000</b>

\*Based on the Ministry of Immigration and Career Training's *Skills Training and Essential Skills Reserve Policy*, Northlands College is approved to draw **\$900,000** from Skills Training Program Reserves in 2026-27 for a total of **\$2,385,000** to support Skills Training programming.

To support the Continuing Care Assistant Pilot in 2026-27, if required, Northlands College is approved to use an additional **\$400,000** from their Restricted Program Reserves, sourced from previous *Health Human Resources Action Plan* funding allocated since 2023-24.

#### **Essential Skills**

The Ministry of Immigration and Career Training is committed to helping adult learners build essential employment skills, advance their education and certification, and acquire prerequisites for further training that supports entry into the labour market. Funding for Northlands College's 2026-27 Essential Skills programming is as follows:

<b>Programs</b>	<b>2026-27</b>	<b>2025-26</b>
Adult Basic Education	\$ 178,000*	\$ 1,649,000
Adult Basic Education-Essential Skills for the Workplace	200,000	200,000
On-Reserve Adult Basic Education	391,000	391,000
<b>Essential Skills Funding</b>	<b>\$ 769,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,240,000</b>
Approved Adult Basic Education Reserve Use	1,471,000	—
<b>Total Available for Essential Skills Programming</b>	<b>\$ 2,240,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,240,000</b>

\* Based on the Ministry of Immigration and Career Training's *Skills Training and Essential Skills Reserve Policy*, Northlands College is approved to draw **\$1,471,000** from Essential Skills Program Reserves in 2026-27 for a total of **\$2,240,000** to support Essential Skills programs.

### **Northern Skills Training**

Northlands College remains a valued northern training partner. Northlands College may continue to use existing Northern Skills Training program reserves to fund proposed programming in 2026-27. All programs must receive approval from the Ministry of Immigration and Career Training before they begin.

### **Capital Transfers**

The 2026-27 Budget includes **\$387,000** in Preventative Maintenance and Renewal funding for Northlands College. The base allocation plus any individual projects that have received approval and funding are shown below.

Base Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Allocation	\$ 22,000
Back-up Power Generator Install at Head Office	225,000
Computerized Maintenance Management System at Head Office	50,000
Program Centre Roof Maintenance in Buffalo Narrows	45,000
Replace UPS Battery Back-Up Unit at the Air Ronge Office	35,000
Water Filling Station at the Buffalo Narrows Residence Facility	10,000
<b>Total Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Funding</b>	<b>\$ 387,000</b>

Institutions are required to complete quarterly capital project reports. The Ministry of Advanced Education has provided revised templates, guidelines, and deadlines to enhance the reporting process. Any proposed changes to the use of capital funds must be approved by the ministry to ensure consistency with the original project objectives and government priorities.

### **Student Supports**

The Saskatchewan Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship (SIOS) allocation for 2026-27 noted below is subject to institution ability to match funds in the previous year. The Ministry of Advanced Education will review reporting and fundraising progress with institutions prior to the 2027-28 Budget.

<b>SIOS Component</b>	<b>2026-27</b>	<b>2025-26</b>
Opportunity	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>

Payment to be issued October 2026.

By **June 30, 2026**, post-secondary institutions are to submit a letter to the ministry regarding scholarship priority areas (i.e., student categories and programs) for the upcoming year, as well as a plan that outlines how any unspent funding will be utilized. Institutions are also required to report actual (July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026) scholarship activity by **July 31, 2026**.