



VIRAGE

Level : 2

Initial Position - /10  
Maneuver - /20  
Final Position - /70  
Result - %

- 0 Hazard Lights Omitted
- 0 Excessive Speed
- 0 Crash

0 Horn not used

VIRAGE



Yukon University

Centre for Northern Innovation in Mining

# CNIM update

November 2023

[YukonU.ca/CNIM](http://YukonU.ca/CNIM)

Photo: GBP Creative



## At a glance

- Heavy Equipment Technician
- Surface Mining/Heavy Equipment Operator Training
- Class 1, 3 and Air Brakes
- Workforce Readiness
- Housing Maintainer
- Earth Sciences
- Environmental Monitoring Certificate
- Applied research: Industrial Research Chair in Northern Mine Remediation



# CNIM update - November 2023

## **Heavy Equipment Technician**

In October, nine students started their Heavy Equipment Technician (HET) journey in the pre-apprentice program along with five Yukon Level 1 apprentices. Students have taken safety and crane training, and basic operator training with the recently acquired grader, dozer and excavator. Due to high enrollment, CNIM has increased teaching capacity through hiring an additional instructor.

## **Surface Mining/Heavy Equipment Operator Training program**

CNIM continues to prepare for delivering simulator-based Surface Mining/Heavy Equipment Operator Training and train-the-trainer programs with anticipated offerings to begin early in 2024. Replacement components of the ThoroughTec surface mining simulator are set to arrive in December in the Yukon and a new HEO instructor/coordinator has been hired to deliver the program in at least three Yukon communities by March 2023.

## **Class 1, 3 and Air Brakes**

CNIM's commercial driver training is ramping up with a plan to offer training in at least five Yukon communities by the end of March 2024. A new instructor/coordinator has been hired who will teach in-class written test preparation and simulator training for class 1 and 3. Programming will also include in-yard and in-cab practice to prepare students for road examinations through Yukon Government's Department of Motor Vehicles.

In October, commercial driver was delivered in Dawson City which included written test prep, simulator training, in-cab training and an Air Brakes course for both class 1 and 3 students, including seven Dawson City Firefighters preparing for class 3. Plans are in place to offer training in Watson Lake at the end of November and in Whitehorse in early December.

## Workforce Readiness program

### YukonU in Watson Lake

With funding support from CNIM, the Workforce Readiness program in Watson Lake started in mid-October with nine participants. Participants will receive training over a 16-week period on a variety of topics from computer skills and career exploration to trades such as welding and carpentry.

## Housing Maintainer

Construction is well underway for the current Housing Maintainer project in partnership with Champagne Aishihik First Nations (CAFN). In October, work included vapour barrier and interior framing, installation of windows and exterior door, plumbing rough-in and HRV rough-in. At the start of November, the tin roofing application was finished and the students started working on window and door trim and siding application. All inspections have been passed to date.



*Instructor and students working on current housing project*



*Progress to date*

Fall courses continue to run smoothly in Earth Sciences. Student retention has been good throughout the semester; there has been no attrition of declared majors.

Some highlights from this semester so far include:

- Earth Sciences students learned about the gravity survey being conducted in the Whitehorse area by Aurora Geosciences. Students were able to observe the gravity survey in action and learn about this geophysical method.
- The Earth Sciences faculty hosted a F.H. Collins High School Grade 12 Geology class in the Earth Sciences laboratory. Students learned about many aspects of what they might do as a student in Earth Sciences, including froth floatation of crushed ore, stream table experimentation, optical microscopy and fossil identification.
- Experiential learning continues to be a large focus and strength of our programming. Students have been in the field for ten different experiential activities since the start of the Fall semester, both close to campus and further afield (Carmacks, Ibex Valley, etc.)



*The Aurora Geosciences field crew introducing Earth Sciences students to gravity survey methods and their current investigations in the Whitehorse area.*

*YukonU students digging soil pits and sampling soils for laboratory analysis.*



# Environmental Monitoring Certificate

In October the Environmental Monitoring program (ENVM) welcomed a new cohort of students with the ENVM 090 - Introduction to Environmental Monitoring course in Whitehorse and hosted by Newmont at the Coffee Gold Project. Five students were able to attend this first course, which will be offered again in early December to accommodate an additional six students. Students were oriented to the program, to the University, and to support programs available. On campus, students learned the foundational concepts of environmental monitoring, safety considerations and employment opportunities, and shared tea with Elders. At the Coffee Gold site, students shadowed Site Environment Department staff in surface and groundwater sampling and spill response, and learned about the rhythm of daily activities as an environmental monitor.

Cohort 6 students will attend ENVM 091 – Environmental Monitoring 1 at the Ayamdigut Campus in mid-November. This course will continue to advance learning in environmental monitoring fundamentals and will highlight industry and government monitoring initiatives in the Whitehorse area. Students will visit the Kwanlin Dün First Nation Lands Department and will learn about Land Stewards' scope of monitoring activities.



*Environmental Monitoring Certificate student, Sharilyn Dendys of Ross River learns to sample groundwater at the Coffee Gold Project.*



**Meagan Christie**  
Instructor  
Carpentry



**Dr. Guillaume Nielsen**  
Industrial Research Chair  
Northern Mine Remediation  
YukonU Research Centre



**Elizabeth Moses**  
Elder on Campus

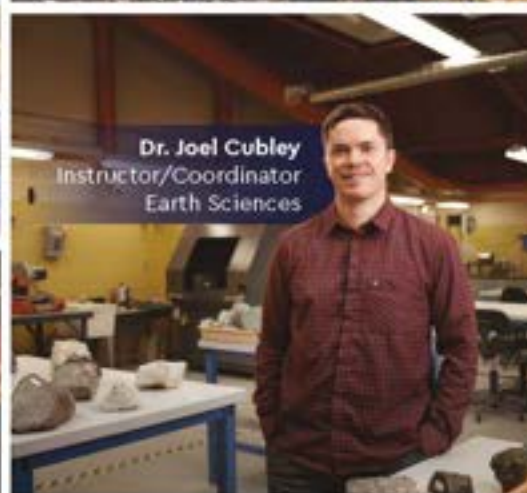
Photos: GBP Creative



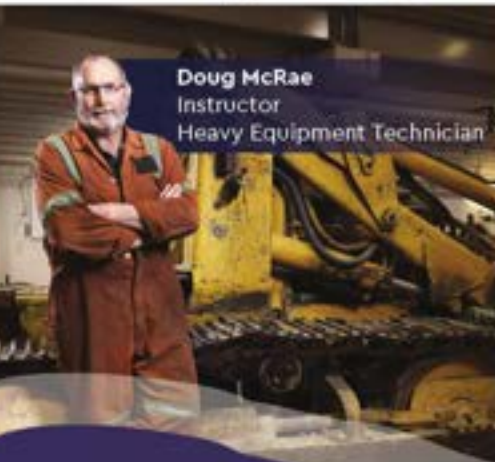
**Samantha Piper**  
Instructor  
Health Care Assistant



**Dr. Benoit Turcotte**  
Senior Research Professional  
Climate Change Research  
YukonU Research Centre



**Dr. Joel Cubley**  
Instructor/Coordinator  
Earth Sciences



**Doug McRae**  
Instructor  
Heavy Equipment Technician



**Dr. Victoria Castillo**  
Instructor, Anthropology  
School of Liberal Arts



**Dr. Katie Aitken**  
Instructor/Coordinator  
Northern Environmental  
and Conservation Sciences



**Dr. Sara McPhee-Knowles**  
Instructor  
Bachelor of Business  
Administration

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and grow with us.

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