

ENVIRONMENT and GEOMATICS PROGRAMS

APPLICATION INFORMATION LETTER

Thank you for considering Selkirk College's School of Environment and Geomatics. In order to complete the application process for the Forestry Technology or Integrated Environmental Planning Technology or Recreation, Fish and Wildlife Technology program at Selkirk College, the following steps must be completed:

1. Complete and sign the Application for Admission form accompanied with the processing fee. If you wish to apply for more than one program, complete an application and send processing fees for each.
2. An OFFICIAL copy of your final transcript from secondary school and an OFFICIAL transcript of any post-secondary education you may have completed.
3. An interim high school transcript showing grade 11 and 12 marks received to date (if you are currently attending), or interim grades for upgrading to meet entry requirements for those presently in upgrading programs.

Thank you for your attention to the above and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL TRANSCRIPTS MUST BE IN ORIGINAL OR CERTIFIED FORM OR THEY ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.

Sincerely,

Admissions Office
Selkirk College

INFORMATION SHEET

Selkirk College offers three program of study in Environment and Geomatics Management – Forest Technology, Integrated Environmental Planning Technology and Recreation, Fish and Wildlife Technology. These two-year programs lead to a variety of rewarding career and lifestyle opportunities focused primarily on outdoor working environments.

The School of Environment and Geomatics is committed to providing cutting edge training in environmental science technologies that are responsive to the needs of students, employers and the community.

Similar programs are available at a number of institutions in BC and the rest of Canada. While the decision about where to acquire such training is not an easy one, Selkirk College invites potential students to compare its programs with any other in Canada. When making comparisons, it is important to look at specific program factors which will contribute to the learning process. The setting of the college, access to appropriate outdoor training sites, availability to students of current equipment and facilities as well as the history of the programs are some of the factors to be considered.

Selkirk College is an excellent location for this kind of training. The College is in a rural setting – a small community dependant on the management of the surrounding natural resources which provides easily accessible outdoor classrooms for its programs. All three programs take advantage of this setting by conducting a large portion of the training outdoors throughout the academic year. Students spend 30% to 50% of their school week in nature's classroom depending on the season and the subject being covered. Because the region around the college includes mountains, rivers, forests and a diversity of ecosystems there is no need to bring the outdoors into the classroom as is done in more urban settings. Our schools philosophy is based on a 43 year history of excellence in environmental science training that use cutting edge technology and a natural classroom to deliver current, relevant educational activities.

The College's facilities and setting, which lead to optimized outdoor and indoor training include:

- a fleet of vans for use within the Environment and Geomatics programs, to transport students to nearby field sites.
- a 600-hectare woodlot license and 300 hectares of private land within ten minutes of the College where students are involved in the actual management of the area.
- unlimited and close access to thousands of hectares of vacant crown land which we are free to use at any time.
- access to current computer and laboratory facilities.
- close cooperation with industrial firms and government agencies in the area who often provide us with work projects such as planting, stand improvement, site assessment, trail construction and road engineering for training purposes.
- many provincial parks and other types of recreation areas and wildlife management areas B more than 50 of these areas are within a 50-kilometre radius of the College.
- a variety of ecosystems and forest types are located within easy driving distance from the College and form the backdrop for field instruction. This, plus the rugged terrain and varied climatic regimes, makes a most interesting and challenging area in which to learn resource management techniques.
- a group of highly skilled student-centred instructors and staff who understand student needs, needs of the employers, and who are focussed on student success.
- a Geographic Information Systems research facility that links with industry in technology and applied research.

Forestry Technology

Selkirk College's Forestry Technology Program is known throughout Western Canada for its emphasis on the quality of training in forestry. The Canadian economy is dependent on a forest industry based on sound forest management practices, including silviculture, harvesting, ecosystem management and planning. Recognizing this reality, Selkirk College emphasizes these aspects in its program. Selkirk College students spend more than 50% of their class time in the field conducting work-related activities. The College's graduates are benefitting from our training and the recognition by government of the importance of better forest management. Employment of graduates is near 85 percent; with virtually all still working although many have changed jobs once.

Graduates find employment throughout BC and Canada with the various government ministries, Forest industry, and the Professional consulting sector. The Forestry program is Nationally accredited by The Canadian Council of Technologists & Technicians (CCTT).

Integrated Environmental Planning Technology

The Integrated Environmental Planning Technology Program prepares students to meet growing needs for technologists capable of assisting in all areas of environmental assessment and monitoring. Graduates of this program are immediately employable by industry, government or environmental consulting firms seeking individuals who understand the environment and the importance of its consideration in land apportionment, development planning and site restoration. Program graduates are familiar with contemporary planning processes and their respective environmental information needs. Graduates of this program are trained in GIS data entry and spatial analysis using ArcGIS software, environmental, chemistry, ecology, hydrology, communication, economics, and environmental planning.

Graduates possess the practical, field and laboratory skills, and technical competencies not only to acquire, compile, analyze, evaluate and present environmental information, but also to integrate it effectively into formal planning and review processes. The Integrated Environmental Planning Technology Program is Nationally Accredited by the Canadian Council of Technicians & Technologists (CCTT).

Recreation, Fish and Wildlife Technology

The major purpose of the Recreation, Fish and Wildlife Technology Program is to provide worthwhile learning experience for individuals seeking careers in parks, forest recreation, and fish and wildlife management. The focus of the program is in the constantly growing field of recreation and tourism, and managing fish and wildlife in the working forest and protected areas. The program of study is designed to lead into three major areas of interest – recreation planning and management, fish, wildlife management and ecosystem management. The dedicated individual, with adequate motivation and an interest in a very competitive field, can develop a rewarding career in recreation, fisheries or wildlife management. Graduates have found careers as park wardens in national parks, park rangers in provincial parks, parks planning technicians with park agencies, fish and wildlife technicians or conservation officers with the Fish and Wildlife Branch, recreation resource officers with the Ministry of Forests, fisheries officers with Federal Fisheries and Oceans, and resource management technicians with private sector firms. Many graduates go on to find work with consulting firms who serve the diverse resource management field. The Recreation Fish & Wildlife Program is Nationally Accredited with the Canadian Council of Technicians & Technologists. CCTT

Shop and Compare

Selkirk College welcomes inquiries by e-mail, phone or letter. Better yet – visit the College for a discussion with students and/or faculty, a tour of the facilities, a familiarization with the College's surroundings and a look at the Forest Technology, Recreation, Fish and Wildlife Technology and Integrated Environmental Planning Technology programs in action.

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