

CNIM

update

August 2025

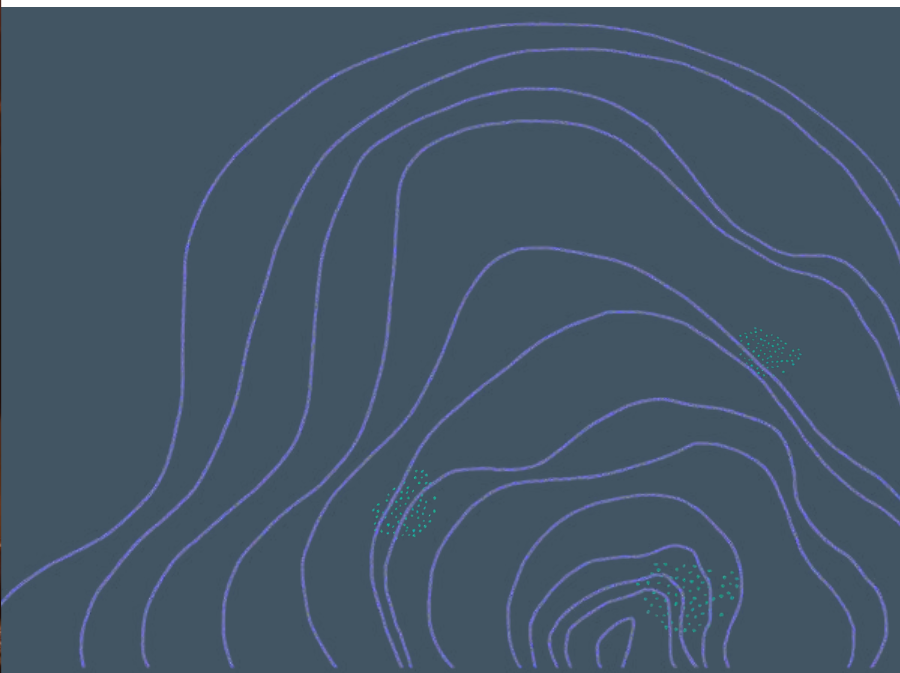
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At a glance

- Heavy Equipment Technician
- Heavy Equipment Rural Operator Training
- Class 1, 3 and Short Courses
- Safety and Industrial Training
- Earth Sciences
- Environmental Monitoring Certificate



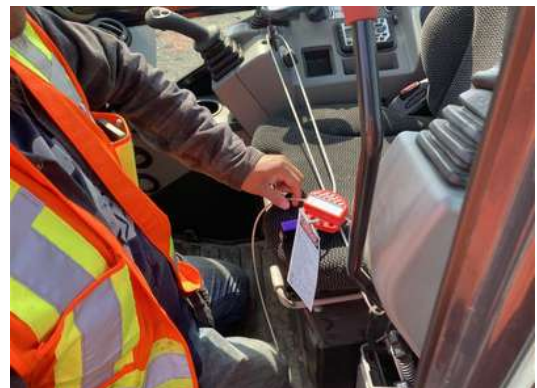
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Heavy Equipment Technician

HET wrapped up Spring 2025 with 9 Level 3 apprentices completing their technical training, 8 of whom wrote their Red Seal exam. The HET team continues to support the work of Skills Compétences Canada with both HET instructors attending the national competition in Regina, Saskatchewan, to support participants and build relationships within the trade. Summer work includes building two air brake training aid props and preparing training materials for 12 eager pre-apprentice students, who will begin their studies on August 25.

Heavy Equipment Rural Operator (H.E.R.O) and Simulator Training

In June, as part of the newly created Heavy Equipment Rural Operator Program, CNIM's instructor Tomasz Wozniak conducted Skid Steer Loader Operator and Mini Excavator Operator courses in Burwash Landing. These courses were delivered as Train-the-Trainer workshops to prepare Kluane First Nation's experienced equipment operators for their roles as mentors and instructors of new workers.



Student practicing "lock out, tag out" of equipment on site



A total of 4 students complete their specialized contract training in Burwash

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CNIM's logistics crew transported the Skid Steer Loader and Heavy Equipment Simulator unit to Carmacks for three weeks of contracted hands-on heavy equipment courses. HERO Program instructor Tomasz Wozniak and LSCFN instructor Kenny Garvice led the Skid Steer Loader Operator training, which benefited from an additional locally supplied skid steer loader. Training was conducted at a nearby gravel pit, with valuable support from the Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation and Carmacks Development Corporation.



Student training on the HEO simulator

In early July, CNIM hosted two Whitehorse-based Skid Steer Loader Operator courses that used a blended learning approach, combining theory with immediate hands-on practice. Eight students successfully graduated from the 2-day courses.



LSCFN members on site for in-cab skidsteer training

Following the skid steer course, students participated in the Common Core theory classroom program, which provided an introduction to heavy equipment operations in various conditions, followed by a week of simulator training and a week of in-cab training. Over three weeks, six participants studied heavy equipment theory, practiced various tasks on the simulator, and gained hands-on experience operating real equipment, graduating with YukonU Front End Wheel Loader and Haul Truck Operator Training certificates of completion.



Student utilizing the CNIM yard space for in-cab practice

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Safety and Industrial Training

Safety and Industrial Training instructor Wayne Schmidt has provided training to 79 students throughout the summer months. Between May and August 2025, the Safety team has delivered the following courses in Dawson City, Mayo, Whitehorse, and Victoria Gold Mine Site:

- Rigging and Hoisting
- Crane Operator Training
- Fall Protection
- Confined Space Entry

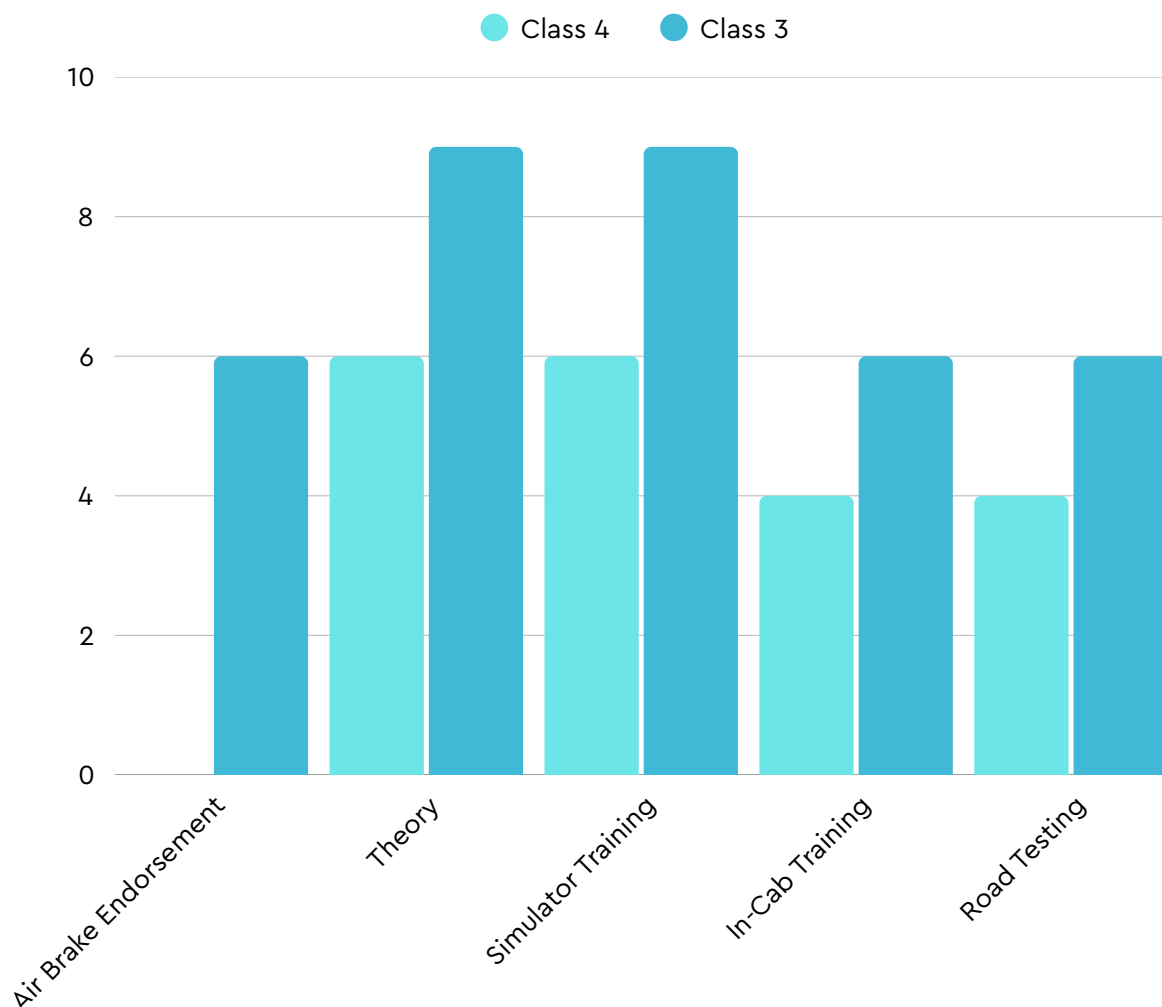
Class 3, Class 1, and Air Brakes Endorsement

Through the generous support CanNor federal funding, CNIM recruited an additional full-time Class 1/Class 3 driving instructor for the Advancing Commercial Driving Project. Cameron Price, an experienced Class 1 driver, will be developing curriculum and delivering theory, simulator and in-cab training courses.

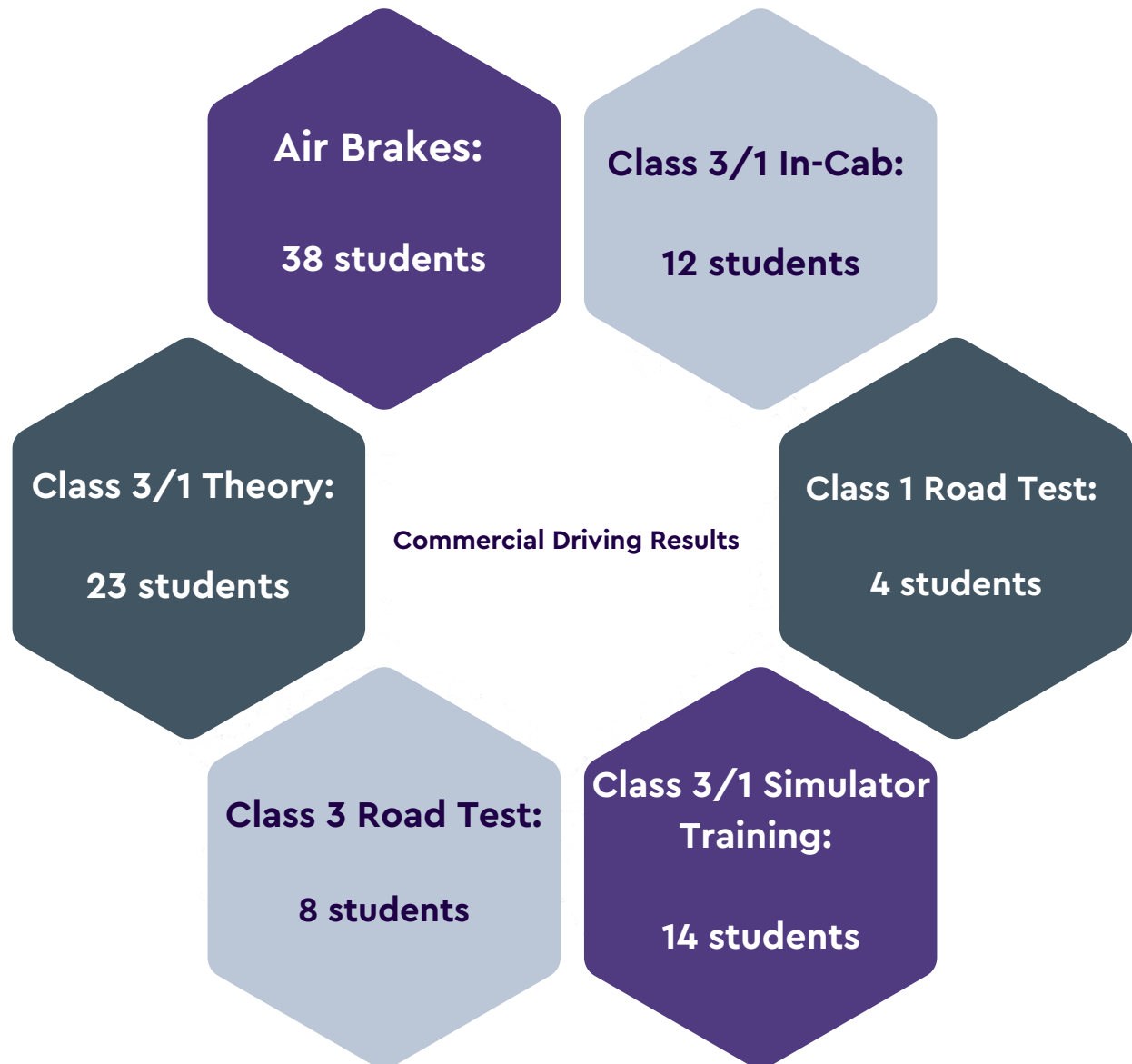
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Class 4 & Class 3: Carmacks Project

In early July, the logistics staff, along with coordinators and instructors provided a full suite of contracted commercial driver training in Carmacks. This initiative was requested by Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation - Mount Nanson Project, and Carmacks Development Corporation, to provide the following courses to community members:



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Class 3 students passing their road tests this summer in Whitehorse!

In May, six second-year Earth Sciences students and their instructor, Dr. Joel Cubley, traveled to Quadra Island, BC (near Campbell River) for a two-week geological field school in collaboration with VIU Earth Science. Students focused on bedrock mapping and structural analysis at a variety of scales. Later that month, faculty member Mary Samolczyk attended the BCCAT Earth Sciences articulation meeting in Kamloops to continue further relationships with other institutions offering geosciences programming.

In early June, five students graduated with a YukonU Earth Sciences diploma. Three graduates will be continuing directly into southern B.Sc. programs in the fall (Memorial University, University of Victoria, and Vancouver Island University). The other graduates plan to work prior to continuing their educational pathways.



Three 2025 Earth Sciences graduates (Justin Kreft, Sheilany Bouchard, and Stephen Smith) with faculty members Mary Samolczyk and Dr. Chad Morgan.

These students and others currently in the program are working for a number of geoscience-related employers this summer, including Aurora Geosciences, Archer Cathro, Apex Geoscience, ALS, Banyan Gold, YukonU Permafrost & Geoscience, and the Earth Sciences program's Assessing Groundwater in the Whitehorse Area (AGWA) research project.

Earth Sciences continued

Joel Cubley and Mary Samolczyk hosted a week-long groundwater research training workshop near Whitehorse from June 24–27. The workshop included field training on fractured rock hydrogeology and surficial materials classification, attracting participants from Yukon Government, several universities, and YukonU. Funded by an NRC Development Grant, the workshop aimed to build expertise ahead of a full NRC research proposal planned for December 2025. Meanwhile, the ongoing AGWA project continues this summer, with student Jamie Pope leading private domestic well sampling in the city.



Field school students mapping bedrock near Heriot Bay, BC.



Downhole imaging of newly-drilled boreholes on the Whitehorse Copper mine site.



Virtual Geology Project Officer Quinn Worthington films Yukon Geological Survey geologist Derek Cronmiller as he discusses the monitoring of the Moosehide Slide above Dawson City.

In July, program faculty and staff spent 10 days in Dawson City for the Geological Survey of Canada's Virtual Geology project, which is now funded through 2027. They collected content on landslide hazards, placer mining, hard-rock gold exploration, and permafrost to develop virtual geoscience field experiences.

Environmental Monitoring Certificate

In May 2025, students in the Environmental Monitoring Program began a busy summer of courses with the ENVM 093 Aquatic Resources delivery in Atlin BC, which focused on water quality, hydrology, arctic grayling monitoring, and hydroelectric power generation.

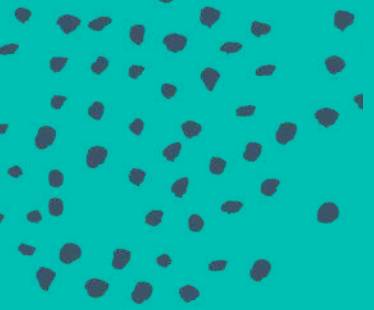


Students in Atlin, BC testing water flow and quality at the Atlin hydro facility and nearby creek

In June, the ENVM 097 Contaminated Sites course was delivered in Faro, hosted by CIRNAC. With support from Ensero Solutions and Integrated Environmental Group, the course strengthens learning related to the Faro Mine Remediation Complex.

In July, students in ENVM 096 focused on monitoring methods for terrestrial ecosystems in the Whitehorse area. They developed skills in plant identification and traditional uses, soil profiling, and ecosystem land classification techniques.

Congratulations to the Environmental Monitoring program graduates of 2025, Yvonne Cable and Cody Cashin!



General Updates

- CNIM staff attended "Construction Day for Youth" at the KDFN Recreation Centre hosted by Canyon City Construction in August.
- The CNIM team are working with Ross River staff and community members in preparation for fall training. The team is hoping to deliver H.E.R.O training and commercial driver training in the community of Faro. This will be a collaboration with several different local companies and supports.
- In June, logistics staff provided CNIM's expanding trailer for use during the summer concert in Shipyard's park.
- As of August 11th, the CNIM department has a new administrative assistant at the front desk. Randy Caponga will be in the role until June 30, 2026, as Michael Atkins takes on a coordination role for Continuing Studies - Communities.
- Through the CanNor sponsored Advancing Commercial Driving Project, CNIM has tendered the purchase of a 40-T crane truck. This vehicle will be used for commercial driver training, as well as a suite of industrial safety and crane operator training courses.



Meagan Christie
Instructor
Carpentry



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



Elizabeth Moses
Elder on Campus

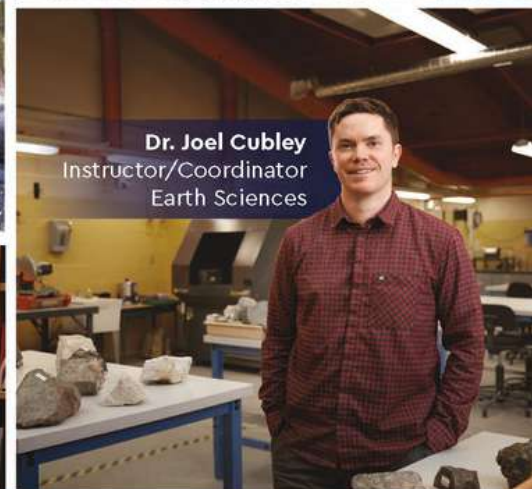
Photos: GBP Creative



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Health Care Assistant



Dr. Benoit Turcotte
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Dr. Joel Cubley
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