

Northwest Community College joins Actua as 34th network member

Ottawa, November 16, 2016/ Today, Actua announced Northwest Community College's Science Innovators Program as its newest network member. Based in Prince Rupert, British Columbia, Northwest Community College (NWCC) is Actua's 34th national network member, and fifth located in B.C.

"We are pleased to welcome Northwest Community College and the Science Innovators Program to the Actua network," said Jennifer Flanagan, CEO of Actua. "NWCC is actively engaging youth, particularly Indigenous youth, who play a critical role in contributing to Canada's innovation economy."

NWCC's Science Innovators Program delivers inspiring hands-on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) experiences in Prince Rupert and remote communities including Smithers, Kitimat Village, Iskut, Terrace, and Hazelton. With Actua's support, NWCC will be focused on increasing access for youth across the region, providing more delivery hours in more locations each year.

"NWCC is thrilled to be able to partner with Actua to bring science to life for young students, with the hope of mentoring them throughout the school year to build excitement for regional science competitions," said Pouyan Mahboubi, Northwest Community College Dean of Instruction.

As part of Actua's growing network, the Science Innovators Program contributes to a national strategy for equipping Canadian youth with skills and experience in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Directors and instructors receive access to outstanding training, resources, and day-to-day support as they grow their programs. They also participate in and receive financial support for their involvement in Actua's national programs designed specifically to engage underserved youth including girls, Indigenous youth, and youth facing significant socio-economic challenges.

About Actua: Actua is Canada's leading science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) youth outreach network representing 34 university and college based members. Over 3 million young Canadians have been inspired through their participation in Actua's hands on educational workshops, camps and community outreach initiatives. Each year, Actua's growing network of member organizations reach over 250,000 young Canadians in over 500 communities nationwide. At the national level Actua focuses on the engagement of underrepresented audiences through specialized programs for Indigenous youth, girls and young women, at-risk youth and youth living in Northern and remote communities. Actua's major funders include: Google Canada, Suncor Energy Foundation, GE Canada and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. For more information about Actua, visit actua.ca

About Northwest Community College: Northwest Community College (NWCC) is an accredited post-secondary institution that serves the rich and diverse communities and learners of BC's beautiful northwest region including Haida Gwaii and the Great Bear Rain Forest. Established in 1975 in Terrace, BC, NWCC has expanded to nine regional campuses serving 34 communities where the College provides students with innovative programs that lead to sustainable careers for people in the North.

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