

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**

**College Acknowledges 2020 Graduates Following Unprecedented Year**  
*Congratulations and appreciation extended to College's learning community*

**June 1, 2020** – During a global pandemic, Carlton Trail College's community rose to the challenge, supporting its learners while finding safe, alternate ways to help them complete the academic year. This month, the College is proud to acknowledge its 2020 program graduates, especially as programs transitioned to alternate delivery methods in response to COVID-19.

"At the start of the pandemic, every available staff member was asked to contribute to transitioning the organization to alternate methods of learning and working," said Shelley Romanyszyn-Cross, President and CEO. "That we were able to shift our operations, wherever possible, in such a short amount of time was a massive undertaking. I want to thank our entire learning community for their commitment to making continued studies a reality for our students."

Transitioning the College to distance learning methods was an unprecedented undertaking. With many post-secondary programs demanding "hands-on" learning aspects, staff were challenged to apply standard teaching practices via new technologies. For example, students in the Continuing Care Assistant program were shown, over video, how to lay out a surgical tray; students were then tasked with finding appropriate materials at home and had to schedule time with their instructor to show, over video, how they would create their own surgical tray. Where internet access or connectivity was a challenge, some staff and students resorted to old-fashioned methods such as drop-boxes; dates and times for drop-offs/pick-ups were scheduled and clearly communicated, allowing items to be left for a safe amount of time between uses.

At this time, the College is pleased to acknowledge students completing their studies within the following programs:

- Continuing Care Assistant (Humboldt, Punnichy and Wynyard)
- Electrician (Humboldt)
- Office Administration (Humboldt)
- Power Engineering Technician (Humboldt)
- Primary Care Paramedic (Humboldt)
- Security Officer (Punnichy)
- Welding (Humboldt)
- Adult 12 (Humboldt, Punnichy, Wadena and Wakaw)
- Adult 10 (Punnichy)

"Even though we're unable to celebrate program graduations face-to-face this year," said Romanyszyn-Cross, "we're extremely proud of the work our students have done, along with many of the new skills they've developed that will serve them well down the road."

"Their resilience, adaptability and grit will help create a better future ... for all of us."



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