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## **Full-time 2nd class power engineering program starts this fall**

(Lloydminster, Alta.) Energy students will be able to expand their career opportunities with Lakeland College's new 2nd class power engineering certificate program.

Available this fall, Lakeland will offer this nine-month face-to-face program at the Lloydminster campus. Graduates will be able to challenge all six 2nd class papers administered by the Alberta Boilers Safety Authority (ABSA). They'll also qualify for nine months of steam time reduction by ABSA and will be eligible to be registered as a Certified Engineering Technologist or Certified Technician with the Association of Science and Engineering Technology Professionals of Alberta.

Students will have the opportunity to learn in Lakeland's state-of-the-art Energy Centre from experienced 1st class power engineers who are also veteran instructors.

"We are focused on being a leader in energy programming. With this new program, Lakeland becomes the only college in Alberta to offer a full-time 2nd class power engineering program through face-to-face delivery," says Michael Crowe, Lakeland's vice president, academic.

Before seeking approval from Alberta Advanced Education, Lakeland consulted its Energy Advisory Committee, surveyed 66 industry partners who employ 2nd class power engineers and polled 65 second-year students from its heavy oil power engineering (HOPE) program. According to their feedback, the need for a full-time 2nd class power engineering program was overwhelmingly confirmed.

"Demand for 2nd class power engineers is increasing, which is why we're pleased to be able to offer this program at Lakeland," says Ben Sey, dean for the School of Energy and Environmental Sciences. "We've worked with our industry partners to create a program that better serves the changing needs of industry and the demand for more highly trained power engineers."

Students also have the option to register for specific modules rather than the entire program. This is expected to be a popular option among industry professionals with 3<sup>rd</sup> class certificates and for graduates of other programs who have completed some of the individual modules. Each module covers one of the six exams required by ABSA. Also, Lakeland's current HOPE students may continue their studies with this program and earn a 2<sup>nd</sup> class certificate.

Graduates of Lakeland's 2nd class power engineering program can explore career opportunities as chief engineers in a 2nd class-rated plant. This includes positions in food processing plants, power plants, pulp mills, hospitals, oil and gas plants, prisons and other institutions that use pressurized boilers. They can also be employed as shift engineers in a 1<sup>st</sup> class-rated plant or pursue a career as a power engineering instructor.

In addition to HOPE, Lakeland offers the heavy oil operations technician program and online blended courses for 4th, 3rd and 2nd class power engineering training as well as other energy related programs and courses, including gas process operator, production field operator, and fired process heater operator.

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