



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

June 18, 2007  
For Immediate Release

### **NORTHERN COLLEGE KIRKLAND LAKE CAMPUS RECEIVES FIRST NORTH AMERICAN TRAINING BODY CERTIFICATION**

KIRKLAND LAKE – The International Institute of Welding (IIW) through its Authorized National Body in Canada -- the Canadian Welding Bureau (CWB) -- has certified Northern College, Kirkland Lake Campus as an IIW Approved Training Body making it the first and only accredited institution in North America.

"Northern College has a reputation for providing experts in the field and it is with great pride to present the College with the first certificate of accreditation in North America," said Edward Whalen, Vice-President, Technical Services for the Canadian Welding Bureau.

"It is not an easy task to receive this accreditation. Northern College's welding curriculum, facilities and faculty were audited by IIW experts and were found to be some of the best they have reviewed," explained Mr. Whalen.

Northern College delivers the International Welding Technology curriculum through its three-year Welding Engineering Technology program. To maintain its accreditation, the College will be audited every three years according to the IIW's strict guidelines. The IIW's International System for the Education, Examination, and Qualification of Welding Personnel ensures that all individuals, from welders to engineers, meet internationally established and recognized industry standards.

Graduates of Northern's Welding Engineering Technology program are trained to the level of these standards and are prepared to write the International Welding Technologists' Exam. Upon successful completion of the exam, they will receive an IIW diploma.

"The IIW diploma is recognized in 38 countries and provides international employment opportunities for our graduates," explained Jack Pacey, Professor.

The Canadian Welding Bureau (CWB), a Division of the CWB Group, is accredited by the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) as a Certification Body. The accreditation covers the welding certification programs for companies engaged in fusion welding, welding consumables and welding inspection organizations.

Northern College has been offering Welding programs at its Kirkland Lake Campus since 1970 and is recognized internationally as a leader in welding education and training.

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Submitted Photo: Edward Whalen, Vice-President, CWB Group (left) presents IIW Certificate to Jack Pacey (middle), Professor, School of Welding Engineering Technology, and Michael Hill (right), President, Northern College

