



## Natural Resources Extension Program (NREP)

Environmental Technician Certificate Program

### Prerequisites

The ETCP has no formal pre-requisites, but an appropriate First Aid (1-day) course having a CPR component is a requirement for the Fish and Fish Habitat Monitoring Skills course.

### Personal Equipment Requirements

View personal field gear requirements online at [www.viu.ca/nrep/environment/Certificates/aet.asp#equipment](http://www.viu.ca/nrep/environment/Certificates/aet.asp#equipment). NREP provides all other field and classroom-related equipment.

### Course Fees

Course fees will vary by location and length of training session. A number of potential funding sources are available through Employment Equity programs and agencies.

### Arranging a Delivery in Your Community

Want us to bring our ETCP to your community or region? Simply contact us at 250-740-6492 for more information. Groups are recommended to consult with us well in advance of your proposed or ideal delivery timeframe. Groups are asked to consider the following:

- Identify and secure program funding (if applicable)
- Entering into a delivery contractual agreement
- Recruit sufficient number of course participants
- Coordinate and arrange classroom facilities

### Registration

Registration information is available online at [www.viu.ca/nrep/registration.asp](http://www.viu.ca/nrep/registration.asp).

### Schedule

Course schedule information is available online at [www.viu.ca/nrep/schedule.asp](http://www.viu.ca/nrep/schedule.asp) or by contacting the NREP at (250) 740-6492.

The Natural Resources Extension Program (NREP) is one of Canada's leading providers of applied, community-based natural resources professional development training. Since 1989, the NREP has developed and delivered fisheries, environmental, and wildlife training to over 15,000 industry stakeholders in communities throughout North America.

NREP offers a unique learning experience for natural resource professionals. We specialize in designing and developing professional development programs founded on three key elements:

1. **In demand 'hands on' training**
2. **Customized training**
3. **Unparalleled Service**

### Contact Us:

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## Overview

The Environmental Technician Certificate Program (ETCP) is comprised of two leading-edge environmental monitoring training options: one, five-week consecutive certificate program; and, five, individual one-week training courses. The ETCP produces graduates that are ideally suited to conduct environmental monitoring and assessment of hydro-electric development, mining, forestry, highway/road construction, and oil & gas operations within traditional territories.

The ETCP is designed to be delivered directly within communities, utilizing local environmental sites and conditions as the “classroom”. The ETCP courses and program are highly applied ‘hands-on’ training courses, with field work, demonstrations, and/or field training taking place most days.

## Objective

The ETCP is designed to address the nation-wide need for certified, skilled environmental field technicians. The ETCP will train practitioners in in-demand environmental monitoring skills and abilities required to assist biologists, environmental technicians, engineers, hydrologists, and site restoration and environmental monitoring professionals.

## Who enrolls in the ETCP?

This program is designed to provide high-quality environmental monitoring and technician skills training to current field technicians and aspiring environmental technicians wishing to update and expand their skills and abilities. Participants that commonly enroll in this program include existing field technicians, resource workers, First Nations, individuals new to the industry, and graduates of other post-secondary environmental programs.

## Employment Opportunities

Graduates find employment with private industry (consultants, mining companies, forestry companies, oil & gas companies, etc.) and First Nations Councils/Bands. Many graduates are today employed as environmental monitors and technicians for a variety of bands, companies and employers. Since 2007, the ETCP has produced more than 400 graduates who now assume these types of positions. Upon completion, NREP staff will assist graduates with job placement and provide impartial career advice.

## Agenda

The ETCP is comprised of the following 1-week (5-day) courses:

- Land Monitoring Skills
- Water Monitoring Skills
- Construction Site Monitoring Skills
- Fish and Fish Habitat Monitoring Skills
- Essential Environmental Skills

Or, as one five-week fully accredited certificate program (25 days; all 5, one-week courses listed above).

The daily delivery format is typically an 8-hour session, with most days involving field training sessions. Classroom and field sessions typically run from 9 am – 4:30 p.m. and 9 am – 5 or 6 p.m., respectively. Longer field sessions may occur when extensive travel to field sites is involved.

## ETCP Completion Options

The ETCP has been developed to provide participants with more flexibility and options to complete this accredited, post-secondary certificate program.

Participants may register for any one-week session, or a number of one-week sessions in a row, or complete a number of one-week sessions over time (e.g., one per season/month/year), ultimately leading to completion of the ETCP full five-week certificate program. Participants may also enroll in a full five-week ETCP program delivery. A Statement of Course Completion is issued for successful completion of any one-week course, while an accredited, post secondary certificate is issued for successful completion of all five weeks of training.

Courses can be completed in any order. However, if participants are wishing to complete all five weeks to obtain a certificate, we strongly recommend they first complete the ‘Essential Environmental Skills’ training course. Further information is available on the NREP website: [www.viu.ca/nrep/programs.asp](http://www.viu.ca/nrep/programs.asp).

Prospective participants should consider the following factors when deciding to enrol in the ETCP: present and future availability of courses; timing; cost; and, travel and living out requirements.



## How do I attend?

The ETCP is offered in two formats.

- Regularly-scheduled deliveries, where NREP schedules individual one-week courses or our full, five-week ETCP. These courses and the program are offered throughout Canada from March to November each year. Participants may register for these directly.
- Contract deliveries, where a group will bring NREP to a given community to deliver a one-week, or a series of one-week courses, or the full, five-week ETCP. Outside participants may be permitted to attend these deliveries (as enrollment limits permit).

## Program Evaluation

Participants will need to meet or exceed the following program standards. Note: there are no formal exams issued during any component of the ETCP.

- 90% attendance for the program
- Demonstration of practical field skills
- Completion of field journal assignments

