

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **NVIT Board of Governors Announces New Board Chair**

Merritt, BC, Dec. 2015 -The Board of Governors of the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology is pleased to announce the recent election of Jamie Sterritt as the Board's newest chair. Since Mr. Sterritt's initial appointment by the Ministry of Advanced Education to the NVIT Board of Governors in 2014, he has been an engaged Board Member actively participating on the Audit Risk Management sub-committee of the Board.

As a member of the Gitksan Nation, Mr. Sterritt is the President of Sa'hetxw Consulting, a First Nations technology services company in Kamloops, BC. Sa'hetxw Consulting serves as an Aboriginal Engagement Specialist for the Pathways to Technology Project, a Provincial initiative to bring Broadband Internet to all 203 First Nation communities in BC. Active in his community, Mr. Sterritt currently sits on the Kamloops Native housing board and was previously Vice President of BC Community Connectivity Co-operative, a previous Director of the Ksan Historical Village and Museum Association and was a member of the First Nations Technology Council.



Sterritt shared that he is humbled and honoured to be the newly elected Chair of an Institute that exemplifies excellence in every sense of the word: students, elders, staff, faculty and the leadership team have all played a central role in creating NVIT's outstanding reputation. On behalf of the NVIT Board of Governors, I acknowledge the contributions of my predecessor, Angela Wesley. "Angela leaves a deep and lasting legacy at NVIT and it is with great pride that I carry forward her work and the work and commitment of all past board members".

Sterritt's priorities as Chair include: continually raising the visibility of the Institute, maintaining strong leadership, working toward increasing partnerships, and continuing to expand its reach across the Province. "As BC's Aboriginal Public Post-Secondary Institute, the continuation and development of programs and services that meet the needs of Aboriginal people in BC and across Canada is key to NVIT's growth". Mr. Sterritt looks forward to working with the Board of Governors through upcoming strategic planning initiatives designed to ensure NVIT continues to set a vision that all Aboriginal students can see themselves within.

As the HOME of Aboriginal public post-secondary education in BC, NVIT's student body represents over 70% of the Aboriginal communities across the province. NVIT invites students from around the country to further themselves with over 300 courses and programs ranging from trades training to Bachelor of Social Work. With campuses in Merritt and Vancouver, online courses and community-based deliveries throughout Canada, NVIT serves more than 1400 students annually. [www.nvit.ca](http://www.nvit.ca)

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