



## INDUSTRY SOLUTIONS

As a leading polytechnic, NAIT partners with industry in all that it does. Through our Industry Solutions we help partners develop applied research solutions for industry challenges, adopt new technologies, develop and test new products, provide workforce training for productivity and improve business practices.

# CENTRE FOR BOREAL RESEARCH

## OVERVIEW

NAIT's Centre for Boreal Research is a 836-square-metres, state-of-the-art research facility located in Peace River.

The centre includes two laboratories, office space, an outdoor growing space and a three-bay greenhouse that features computer-controlled humidity, temperature and lighting. The centre was funded by NAIT, Alberta Innovation and Advanced Education, and the Canada Foundation for Innovation, with industry funding from Shell Canada and Penn West Petroleum.

The Centre for Boreal Research is a leader in applied research for reclamation, restoration, and reforestation of disturbed uplands and wetlands and is an essential partner for applied science, innovation and enterprise development in Alberta's boreal forest region. With joint funding from the Natural Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada and many industry partners, the centre has established two Industrial Research Chairs for Colleges to advance research in boreal reclamation, reforestation and peatland restoration, and is a hub for technology and knowledge extension led by its Applied Research Chair in Plant and Seed Technologies.

## WHAT WE DO

The Centre for Boreal Research develops scientifically based best practices and applied technologies to address present and emerging knowledge gaps in the management and reclamation of disturbed landscapes.

The centre also hosts the **Boreal Plant and Seed Technology Access Centre (TAC)**, focused on applied research and knowledge transfer of innovative technologies that facilitate the use of native species in reclamation.

Our mission is to promote the informed use of boreal resources through applied science, education, and partnerships with industry, government agencies, practitioners, communities and academic partners.

## FOUR REASONS TO CHOOSE NAIT AS YOUR APPLIED RESEARCH PARTNER:

- **CONNECT PARTNERS:** Strong partnerships and research networks are core to the success of the centre and benefit our partners, collaborators, students and all Albertans.
- **SOLVE PROBLEMS:** Through prototyping of tools and technologies, we enable organizations to apply solutions to today's forest management challenges and reduce management risks and costs into the future.
- **INDEPENDENT THIRD PARTY:** We offer objective and scientifically credible information at arm's length from government and industry to meet our stakeholders present and emerging reclamation needs.
- **ACCESSIBLE PRODUCTS:** We provide information products, guidelines, and protocols in formats that are widely accessible, to inform operational reclamation practices and enable responsible management and environmental stewardship by industry and small and medium-sized enterprises.

## OUR EXPERTISE

The Centre for Boreal Research is instrumental in providing novel, scientifically proven and cost-effective reclamation methods, products, training and education in four key programs:

- **Forest Reclamation** - we innovate boreal reforestation methods for industry to improve reclamation success while reducing management risks and costs.
- **Peatland Restoration** - we advance technologies in peatland reclamation and management to reduce the industrial footprint on boreal peatland communities.
- **Plant and Seed Technologies** - we facilitate the collection, treatment, and delivery of native boreal tree, shrub, forb and graminoid species for reclamation in northwestern Alberta.
- **Research Extension and Education** - we promote the timely publication of relevant applied research to enable industry to meet ecological reclamation and reforestation standards on forest and peatland sites throughout Alberta.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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