



**First Nations Technology Council**

# Drone Stewardship Training

Indigenous communities and organizations in British Columbia are invited to apply for the first program to offer comprehensive training in the theory, set up and application of drones with an Indigenous community context! Transport Canada certifications included.

**Online application form:** [www.technologycouncil.ca/drone](http://www.technologycouncil.ca/drone)

**Training dates** August 23, 2021 – September 10, 2021

**Application period closes** July 16, 2021

**Location:** online

## Who Can Apply?

Regional hosts (Indigenous Nation, community or organization). Each regional host will nominate two regional representatives (Indigenous staff or community members) to attend the training. Each regional host will be provided with a drone to own and operate upon successful completion of the training!

Tuition and certification costs are funded by the Technology Council. Additional funding for travel and accommodation expenses are available upon application.

## Contact Information

[www.technologycouncil.ca/drone](http://www.technologycouncil.ca/drone)

[skills@technologycouncil.ca](mailto:skills@technologycouncil.ca)

604-921-9939

# → Background

**The First Nations Technology Council** is excited to announce funding from the **Lands and Economic Development Services Program Canada (Indigenous Services)** to design and deliver a pilot training program to expand the use of drones for Indigenous-led projects in British Columbia.

Drones, otherwise known as *Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV)* or *Remotely Piloted Aircrafts (RPA)*, have the potential to significantly support Indigenous land stewardship, sovereignty, and self-determination.

Drones can be used to collect high resolution remote sensing data with minimum effort that provides invaluable, real-time data with a multitude of applications. Some of the more well-known uses of this technology are within the environmental management and emergency response services, including:

- Traditional land use and mapping
- Fire and flood prevention
- Chemical distribution
- Waste management
- Search and rescue
- Land surveying
- Agriculture
- Forestry

While these are all relevant to Indigenous communities, the Technology Council also sees opportunity in applications for other priorities, including: digital storytelling, film and art, archaeology and history, cultural revitalization and cultural tourism.

# → Training Details

<b>Dates:</b>	<b>Time commitment:</b>	<b>Cohort:</b>	<b>Location:</b>
August 23, 2021 to September 10, 2021	3 weeks full-time 9AM-3PM Monday-Friday	12 students	online

# → Course outcomes:

Comprehensive understanding of theory, set up, and applications of drones through best practices in Indigenous Education and with a focus on community applications. Students will prepare for and write their Transport Canada RPAS Small Basic Exam.

For more information about the Exam and Transport Canada guidelines, please follow this link: <https://www.tc.gc.ca/en/services/aviation/drone-safety/new-rules-drones.html>.

The third week of training will be dedicated to hands-on learning and a capstone project where students will present a project relevant to their interests.

# → Recruitment Process

For this pilot course, the First Nations Technology Council will be accepting applications from Regional Hosts across BC who will nominate 2 Regional Representatives to attend this training program. With a focus on long-term sustainability, following training completion, 6 Regional Hosts will be provided with a professional-level drone to own and operate long-term.

## → Regional Representative Eligibility

- Microsoft Office proficiency (Word, Powerpoint, Excel)
- Strong link between educational, professional, community, or other experience to drone technologies (demonstrated in Section B of the application package below)
- Commitment to taking the RPAS Small Basic Exam (passing of test not guaranteed)
- Commitment to long-term application of skills towards drone projects in the region

## → Regional Host Eligibility

- Indigenous-led Nation, community, or organization
- Capacity to take ownership of the drone equipment and be financially and operationally responsible for the security and maintenance of the drone (demonstrated in Section A of the application package below)
- Ability to schedule and document the drone's internal or external use
- Commitment to providing updates to the Technology Council over the first year of its use. A template and submission schedule will be provided.

## → Participant Funding

Tuition and certification costs for participants of the program are covered by the First Nations Technology Council. Additional financial support funds are available for student travel and accommodation by application, which are approved on a case-by-case basis.

## → Application Instructions and Selection Criteria

Section A of this application is intended to be filled out by the Regional Host, and Section B by the Regional Representatives.

Please note that submission of this application does not guarantee acceptance into the program. After the Technology Council has received and reviewed your application package, you will be notified if you have been selected to proceed to the interview stage, where we will coordinate a meeting with both Regional Host and Regional Participants.

Applications will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Regional Host Capacity: 25%
- Regional Representative Preparedness: 25%
- Long-term Plan for Drone Use: 50%

→ **For any questions,** Contact us at **604-921-9939** or **Skills@technologycouncil.ca**