



# North Idaho College

## Delivering certainty in these uncertain times



Rick MacLennan

These are truly uncertain times for us all, and at North Idaho College we are working to use this moment to ensure our actions reinforce our commitment to our students and community.

Our buildings are closed and we work remotely, but NIC remains open for business as we push for excellence in service, and especially in providing quality online teaching and learning. NIC faculty and staff have worked exceptionally hard these past few weeks. On Monday, we launched into a virtual college environment for the remainder of the spring semester for most all classes and programs.

While the full impact of COVID-19 is still unfolding, it has already significantly disrupted students’ learning and lives through loss of jobs, the need to adapt to a new learning environment, and the challenge of managing essential living expenses and needs. We are working harder than ever to support our students, and I could not be more proud of the ways in which North Idaho College’s staff and faculty have responded in this time of unprecedented need. We’re ready for whatever is needed.

We owe that readiness, in no small part, to the distance learning and information technology infrastructure the college has been quietly planning and developing over the past several years. While the challenges we currently face have come quickly, the NIC information technology and distance learning staff have provided exceptional, professional, and personal support for our faculty, staff and students -- many of whom have never been required to do their work in a virtual or remote environment.

I applaud everyone at NIC for stepping up to this incredible challenge. I have been awed by the teamwork, flexibility and can-do attitudes so clearly demonstrated across the college. The Cardinal spirit is thriving!

NIC is your community college. During times of crisis, like COVID-19, what truly matters is our connection to community and the reminder that through our resilience and collaboration, we can and will pull together to succeed. Our students, faculty and staff are your friends and neighbors. They work with you, and for you.

We are exceedingly proud of our alumni who are the nurses, first responders, patient

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**RICK MACLENNAN,**  
President of North Idaho College

care coordinators, chefs, and other essential employees who are on the front lines serving this community.

NIC is committed to deploying resources, wherever we can help, by donating masks and other personal protection equipment to Kootenai Health and making medical equipment typically used for teaching available to our medical providers to expand capacity.

Our Head Start centers are donating food to families in need and to local food banks, and our Area Agency on Aging staff are tirelessly advocating for and protecting the most vulnerable among us.

NIC has been here for our community since 1933 and we remain focused on serving you in good times as well as in the tough times — being a neighbor, providing support and continuing to be a beacon of hope.

On behalf of all of us at North Idaho College, please continue to look out for yourselves, your families and each other. NIC is here for you. Be safe. Be well.

Regards,  
Rick MacLennan,  
President of North Idaho College

NIC continues to update information for our students, employees and our community at [www.nic.edu/coronavirus](http://www.nic.edu/coronavirus).

If you have any specific questions or seek additional information regarding NIC’s efforts during the COVID-19 crisis, do not hesitate to reach out to us at [CommunityRelations@NIC.EDU](mailto:CommunityRelations@NIC.EDU).

# STAY HOME SAVE LIVES

► [nic.edu/coronavirus](http://nic.edu/coronavirus)

***T*here is no higher priority to our entire team than the health and safety of our community, clients and employees.** The unpredictability of these times and its impact does not alter our focus on continuing to serve our community. Our dynamic team, coupled with our advanced technology, prepares us well for navigating through these uncertain times.

We understand that this evolving situation can be unnerving and want you to know we are all in this together. Kootenai Title has served this community since 1974 and will continue to do so with the highest level of compassion and competence. We will rise to the occasion to look after our community and each other so that we may work together to get past this and become more resilient.

1450 Northwest Blvd. Suite 200 Coeur d’Alene, ID 83814  
(208) 667-9431 | [www.KootenaiTitle.com](http://www.KootenaiTitle.com)