

**PARTNER PERSPECTIVE**



**Dr. Geoffrey W. Payne**  
Interim Vice President Research &  
Graduate Programs  
University of Northern  
British Columbia

# University of Northern BC is Developing Local Solutions that are Globally Relevant

University of Northern BC (UNBC) just celebrated its 25th anniversary and is one of four major research-intensive Universities in British Columbia. This past year marked the 2nd time that UNBC was ranked the #1 small University in Canada by Maclean's Magazine. One important aspect of this achievement has been the research activity of our faculty and the

undergraduate and graduate students engaged in research.

Our major research institutes and centres support the UNBC research mission whose focus includes the areas of natural resources, health, community development and climate solutions. UNBC has also six Canada Research Chairs and eight Endowed research chairs who are drivers of innovative research programs.

The UNBC mission is to grow

capacity and opportunities for research and creative activities by engaging our people and partners, leading to the discovery of new knowledge. By building a flourishing research culture, UNBC scholars have undertaken transformative research that is recognized at the national and international level.

- Research on sustainable development within the world is achieved using innovative modeling that

identifies places that are still largely 'wild' and should be protected, as well as to identify places suitable for restoration of their natural functions and ecosystem services.

- Potential anti-cancer fighting biologics from traditional plant sources.
- As Canada's Green University™, UNBC is committed to being a leader in renewable energy thought and practice. UNBC research explores solutions for renewable energy

production, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and energy security for Canada's off-grid communities.

UNBC is engaged in not only finding solutions for the global arena, but also mentoring the next generation of researchers whose diverse lens and critical thinking will take the research skills acquired at UNBC and become the next leaders for transforming research into innovative action.