



**NORTHWESTERN
ALASKA CAREER
AND TECHNICAL
CENTER**

Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center

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RE: NACTEC Support Statement

The Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center (NACTEC) is committed to work with a growing list of industry partners, who appreciate and respect the importance of subsistence lifestyle practice and economic prosperity as supported by our local native corporations and economic development corporation. Graphite One Resources support of NACTEC training programs will contribute to a more technically trained workforce that will support Alaska priority industries in: natural resource development, construction, and transportation, across the Nome Census Area which currently has a 12.2% unemployment rate (Dec. 2017).

Graphite One Resources will bring to the Nome region the types of jobs NACTEC is already providing workforce development training, as identified by a local Advisory Board. Year in and year out Driver Education training is rated as the top priority service in the Nome Regional Training Center. In FY17 the amount of certificates doubled from the previous all time high in FY16 (see attached). Along with support from the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development and local native corporations, industry partners such as Graphite One Resources annual contributions continue to provide the support needed to grow vocational training, developing a local workforce that will support industry investment in our region.

By March 2018, NACTEC's heavy equipment simulator center will be completely upgraded to motion-based training technologies. Based out of Nome we will be able to provide authentic training to support heavy equipment operators, whether it be: graphite mining, road construction and maintenance, airport maintenance, or snow removal needs with technical training on: dozers, graders, hydraulic excavators, small & large wheel loaders, mining trucks, off-road trucks, and articulated trucks alike. Just as we've succeeded in other domains such as Health Care, we anticipate working closely with Graphite One Resources as an industry partner to refine training programs, to better prepare our local workforce with pre-requisite skill sets as a win-win for all partners and for the betterment of our people and region.