



### Al Bertschi - Associate Dean MSc (Natural Resources), P.Ag

- Joined Portage College in 2008
- Professional experiences include several contracts with Alberta Pacific Forest Industries' (Al-Pac) environmental team, management of a 16,000ha Poplar Farm, and international agriculture work in New Zealand
- Research on the land application of fly ash derived from wood led to Alberta's pulp industry diverting 50% of its waste by volume to agricultural land applications
- Currently owns and operates an erosion control company

"Not all of my education is formal - a good portion of my education came from my field and work experiences which I bring into the classroom."



### Christiaan Conradie - Instructor MSc (Biology)

- Joined Portage College in 2018
- Professional experiences in South Africa include environmental management and law as well as human-wildlife conflict and novel 'wild tech' solutions in Chacma baboons, white sharks and wildlife tracking
- Biological technologist experiences include field work on a sub-Antarctic island with elephant seals, fur seals and killer whales; research on orangutan in the jungles of Sumatra and pollination biology in the mass flowering succulent Karoo
- Published on Marion island soil variation. Acknowledged for data collection and photos in publications on elephant seals, killer whales, orangutan, baboon management, and pollination biology

"A formal education in Natural Resources is your passport to ecosystems of unsurpassed beauty and complexity from Alberta to Zambia."



### Kerry Kryvenchuk – Instructor R.P.F.T (Registered Professional Forest Technologist)

- Joined Portage College in 2003
- Professional experiences include forest cut-block planning and layout, initial attack firefighting, lookout tower observation.
- Key instructor for Continuing Education including Portage College Snowmobile safety, Chainsaw safety in accordance with Woodland Trainers Association, and certified ATV instructor recognized by Canada Safety Council.

"An ideal education is a combination of classroom instruction and learning in the field. That's my goal while teaching and is something I enjoy. I believe in hands-on practical experience for all of our students."



### Michael Schulz - Instructor MSc (Ecology), P.Biol., E.P.

- Joined Portage College in 2009
- Professional experiences include teaching at various institutions; working as a botanist performing rare plant surveys, weed surveys, ecosystem classification, mapping, environmental site assessments, and wetland assessments
- Research on fungal competition and ecology published in the Canadian Journal of Botany and Wetlands journals
- Currently contracts doing plant surveys and lichen identification work

"Since childhood, I have been fascinated with the plants, animals, fungi, and other organisms in our world, and have wanted to be able to identify everything I see. I strive to bring my passion for the natural world into all of the courses that I teach."



**Rae Boisvert - Instructor  
MSc (Environment Management ), RPF (Registered Professional Forester)**

- Joined Portage College in 2019
- Professional experience includes community based monitoring and knowledge co-production, Indigenous cooperative management, Parks and Protected Areas management with the Government of Alberta, forestry work throughout Northern BC, and international work in New Zealand.
- Research on Indigenous Self Determination, Reconciliation and Resource Development with Te Uri o Hau, a Northland hapu of Ngati Whatua in Aotearoa (New Zealand).
- Currently contracts working with Indigenous communities on protected areas management, community based monitoring and knowledge co-production programs.

“Learning about the environment should come from a holistic perspective of the natural world. Appreciating numerous knowledge systems provides the student with a well-rounded approach to environmental management.”