Greetings everyone,

As I reflect upon the last several days, like many of you, I am deeply saddened by what has been a challenging and painful week for our nation.

As a college, we exist to facilitate educational equity and provide access for all. North Idaho College’s history as a beacon of hope and opportunity for generations of students stands strong. As an institution of higher learning, our record of promoting social justice and supporting human rights is clear and unequivocal. I am confident we will continue to excel as an institution that openly creates healthy dialogue to examine racial and ethnic injustice, barriers to education, prejudice and bias.

I am proud of the meaningful work our faculty and staff champion in the area of human rights. Of particular relevance to the anger and anguish unleashed as a result of the death of George Floyd, our NIC Diversity Council has released a statement about its continued commitment to bring effective conversations and programming to our NIC community. These efforts seek to extinguish bias, celebrate unique stories, and build upon the threads of a diverse tapestry that make NIC so valuable to those we serve.

Our history and collective strength make NIC a safe and powerful place to help our community listen, learn and grow in its understanding and advocacy for human rights and social justice. Thank you for your role in helping fulfill this purpose.

Yours truly,

Rick MacLennan, President