

Algonquin College urges laid-off workers to consider Second Career retraining

For immediate release

Ottawa, ON, June 11, 2008 – A new campaign has been launched urging laid-off workers seeking retraining to consider programs at Ontario's public colleges, where each applicant may be eligible for funding to help with their costs under the Ontario government's new Second Career program.

"Algonquin College applauds the McGuinty government's Second Career program to help laid-off workers find new career opportunities," says Robert Gillett, President, Algonquin College. "The financial support for education and training will help these workers get the training they need to pursue meaningful new careers."

To help unemployed workers find the training programs that suit them best, the 24 Ontario Colleges have launched a public awareness campaign that includes college websites, a new province wide toll-free line, 1-800-COLLEGE, and information materials for employment offices.

"It is particularly important to consider these quality programs now, as many applicants to Ontario's public colleges will be eligible for funding that can help with costs of tuition, books, living expenses and other costs under the province's new Second Career program," adds Gillett.

Ontario's public colleges currently educate and train more than 200,000 full-time students and more than 250,000 part-time students. More than 90 per cent of college graduates find employment within six months, and more than 93 per cent of employers report being satisfied with the quality of the graduates hired.

About Algonquin College:

Algonquin College of Applied Arts and Technology is located in the Nation's Capital and the Ottawa Valley and is one of the largest colleges in Ontario. Algonquin is a leader in the integration of technology into learning. Algonquin College has a diverse population of nearly 16,000 full-time students and more than 39,000 part-time registrations in more than 140 programs and is committed to student success. For more information please visit www.algonquincollege.com.

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