

Algonquin College celebrates Environment Week with Launch of Canada's first Green Business Management College Program

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, June 2, Ottawa – In coordination with Canadian Environment Week, today Algonquin College officially launched its Green Business Management Program. This graduate certificate is Canada's first college program focused on sustainable business development and environmental stewardship.

"Caring for the environment is part of our overall commitment to caring for our students," says Robert Gillett, President of Algonquin College. "By taking a lead in environmentally sustainable practices and program offerings we hope that our students will use what they learn to become citizens who are deeply concerned about the environment."

Recognizing the importance of sustainable development principles and practices in curriculum, the Green Business Management Program provides an opportunity for those interested in pursuing a career that combines business with a passion for the environment.

"Algonquin College has offered programming with a sustainable focus for a number of years and the launch of the Green Business Management Program is another step in the College's commitment to sustainability," says Gillett. "This program will produce employees with the business and technical skills necessary to play an influential role in planning their organization's environmental initiatives."

"Canadians are passionate in protecting the environment, and as Minister, I share their passion," said Canada's Environment Minister and the local Member of Parliament for Ottawa West-Nepean, John Baird. "The Green Business Management Program is a great example of how Algonquin's quality graduates can help businesses across the country reduce their environmental footprint on the planet in a smart and sustainable way."

Graduates from the Green Business Management Program will assist businesses to plan, lead, organize and reduce their environmental impact using ecological sustainable management systems and practices. They will create, analyze and implement personal and corporate energy audits, develop criteria for "Green Business Report Cards" for local businesses, and use 'green' business ideas to capitalize on current 'green' business opportunities.

"Companies have already contacted us inquiring about when they can hire the graduates from the Green Business Management Graduate Certificate Program," says Jim Kyte, Acting Chair, Marketing and Management Studies, Algonquin College. "This program will help to 'grow' tomorrow's local, national and global 'green' business leaders."

The Green Business Management Program provides an exciting opportunity for students to become 'green' business leaders and earn an Algonquin College Graduate Certificate within one year. The program will be offered on Wednesdays and Saturdays to accommodate students who are currently employed in the business sector.

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