

# Annual Report 2005

Bold vision, strategic actions.



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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

2005-06 was a remarkable year for Algonquin College. This annual report details a period of great progress, challenging events and important breakthroughs. Through it all, we continued to enrich our programs and services, expand our facilities, and most importantly, focus on the success of our students.

With campuses located in the Nation's Capital and the Ottawa Valley, Algonquin is the third largest college in Ontario serving 14,857 full-time students and approximately 23,000 part-time students. We remain focused on our vision to become the leading Canadian college and in pursuit of that objective, we continue to strategically **lead, partner, innovate and excel**.

In 2005, the Business Plan encompassed 23 strategic objectives that enabled the College to address a number of emerging opportunities. New provincial funding allowed us to hire more full-time faculty, replace outdated equipment, update infrastructure, and proceed with plans to build new facilities. In addition, we began the upgrading of our information technology equipment, provided improvements to our rural campuses, and managed additional renovations throughout the College. Supported by the Board of Governors, we addressed these objectives.

Our employees continue to be our greatest asset. Through their commitment to position Algonquin College as a 21<sup>st</sup>-century learning institution and meeting the changing needs of students in the evolving and competitive post-secondary environment, the College continues to move forward.

Provincially recognized initiatives such as the Colleges Integrating Immigrants to Employment (CIITE) and Phase II of the Simulation Centre for Health Studies, as well as the successful launch of several international academic agreements, are testimony to our success this year and would not have been possible without the support of our government and industry partners.

In the coming year, we will leverage our tremendous successes to date. We will continue to work strategically in partnership with all of our stakeholders and carry forward our bold vision. We will continue defining new possibilities for college education and training, while remaining committed to our core values, our staff, and most importantly, our students.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the staff, to the Board of Governors, the Students' Association, the Foundation, the Alumni Association and to all members of our college community for their willingness to face challenges, take appropriate risks and work diligently as we prepare tomorrow's leaders.

Robert C. Gillett  
President

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## LEAD.

Once again, Algonquin has demonstrated exceptional leadership in Ontario's post-secondary education. The College introduced new programs and engaged in productive partnerships that created a stimulating and supportive environment in which students and staff continued to grow, personally and professionally.

Algonquin took the lead in 2005 in the **Colleges Integrating Immigrants to Employment (CIITE)** project. Sponsored by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities and the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, the initiative aims to make systematic changes within the province's colleges to improve service levels and provide education pathways that meet the needs of internationally trained immigrants. It has five areas of focus: admissions, advisement, credential assessment, language proficiency and employment preparation.

*"I believe that Algonquin College's programs will undoubtedly be beneficial for many foreign-trained professionals in various ways, from language training to integrating them into their professions and offering sound alternative careers."*

Abdul Abdulrahman

Foreign-trained Physician

Algonquin College Respiratory Therapy Graduate

We continued to introduce and advance programs of study that respond directly to emerging training needs in the local community. We successfully concluded Phase I of our Photonics Education and Training project and officially launched Phase II—the **Bachelor of Applied Technology—Photonics Program**. In collaboration with Photonics Research Ontario, the Ministry of Economic Development and Training, and Niagara College, this program will give Ontario a competitive edge in the growing global photonics industry.

The College also introduced several new programs this past year, including Game Development, Fitness and Health Promotion, Internet Application Programmer, and Autism and Behavioural Science. May 2005 saw the launch of the **Water and Waste Water Technician program** which directly addresses the increasing demand for highly skilled workers in the water-quality industry. The program, which blends theory and practice, is preparing students to become water and sewage treatment operators, water analysts and compliance officers qualified to meet new provincial standards to ensure health and safety of our communities in Ontario.

We also continued to expand our satellite-campus programs to fulfill niche-market demands. We conducted a **needs analysis** at the Algonquin College Heritage Institute (Perth Campus) that is providing the foundation for a new Inn and Spa Hotel Management program to be located at the new Code's Mill Inn in Perth.

At our Algonquin College in the Ottawa Valley (ACOV) (Pembroke Campus), we utilized funding received from the Renfrew County Community Futures Development Corporation to complete an economic and socio-economic benefits study that indicated the campus yielded a 17.3 percent return on investment for Ontario taxpayers, confirming ACOV as an “**engine of economic growth for the region**”.

The College continues to lead within the **OntarioLearn** (OL) consortium. There were a total of 33,746 registrations through OL during the 2005/06 fiscal year and 10,003 (or 29.6%) of those registrations were in courses hosted by Algonquin and a total of 677 course sections were delivered by us.

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## **PARTNER.**

Our achievements would not be possible without partnership — close collaboration with industry, school boards, government, other post-secondary institutions, and the local and global communities. By fostering cooperative relationships with partners who share our values, we are able to jointly leverage financial and human resources, and share responsibilities to ensure the success of our students.

Last year, the College made impressive strides in strengthening legacy relationships and forging new alliances that will enable great progress in the coming years.

Algonquin College has traveled the world forging new partnerships to assist the global community. Some of the developments this year included participation in the **Ontario Trade Mission to China** where Algonquin College signed five partnership agreements to deliver academic and language programs in cooperation with Chinese educational institutes such as Shanghai University, Nanjing Institute of Technology, and Fuyang Middle School.

In India, Algonquin has entered into **partnerships with three academic institutions** to offer skills training in such areas as animation, hospitality and tourism, journalism, and biotechnology. Algonquin also participated in a Federal government sponsored science and technology mission to New Delhi and Bangalore.

We also **partnered with the government of Akwa Ibom in Nigeria** and welcomed 70 Nigerians to the College for a two-year training program to gain specialized skills in the latest network technologies, along with international experience that they can take back to their country.

*"The opportunity to study at one of Canada's leading post-secondary institutions will provide us with needed technological skills."*

Kufre Akpan  
Nigerian Student Leader

Working in partnership with local universities, school boards, and with private training organizations, Algonquin played a lead role in developing a business plan for the **Global Learning Alliance program**, which seeks to differentiate Ottawa as a global leader in innovative learning and training. The program is focused on leveraging the region's industry clusters and physical, academic and intellectual infrastructure to promote Ottawa as a knowledge leader—a full-service provider of education and training for world markets.

We **continue to collaborate** with the University of Ottawa on the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, and with Carleton University on the Bachelor of Information Technology. Outdoor Adventure students at the Pembroke campus now benefit from an articulation agreement with Thompson Rivers University in British Columbia.

Our **SmartHome partnership** began in 2005, thanks to the foresight and support of the Town of Perth. This Perth campus initiative seeks to develop expertise in the area of “green” construction as part of the two-year Advanced Housing program. Its approach to the smart planning, design and construction of homes aligns with the United Nations’ definition of sustainability, which includes affordability. Students are actively engaged in the construction of a smart home that, subsequently, will form the core of a complete housing community.

**Additional partnership successes** included: an agreement between Bell Security Solutions Inc. and the School of Advanced Technology to enhance the College’s Information Systems Security one-year graduate certificate program; a collaboration between the School of Media and Design and the Women in Media Foundation to introduce young women to careers in media; and an initiative with the School of Business and the Law Society of Upper Canada and other community colleges that will pave the way for the education and licensing of paralegals in Ontario.

Our efforts this year were once again enhanced by tremendous support from our community partners through their **generous donations** to the Algonquin College Foundation, some of which included donations from Direct Energy/Ottawa Senators Foundation, Gay Cook Bursary Fund, Toyota Canada Foundation, Nissan Canada Inc., Nepean Chamber of Commerce, and Bill and June Joe. These donations enabled the College to place 2<sup>nd</sup> in Ontario for raising student endowment funds worth more than one million dollars.

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## INNOVATE.

Algonquin has established a reputation as a “groundbreaker” in post-secondary education. In 2005, the College sustained its commitment to innovation, creating new possibilities for students and the communities in which they will apply their skills.

Among our many significant achievements in innovation was the official opening in November of Phase II of our **Simulation Centre for Health Studies**. The facility, which has garnered national and international attention, is the first fully equipped operating room suite and critical care/trauma unit in an educational institution in Canada. It allows Algonquin faculty to recreate clinical environments, facilitating inter-professional practice among nurses, physicians, respiratory therapists and paramedics. Using high-fidelity patient simulators, students are able to practice essential psychomotor and decision-making skills and build confidence in a safe environment prior to entering clinical practice.

Several pan-tilt-zoom digital video cameras with microphones enable audio and visual recording of training sessions for subsequent review by students and faculty. This equipment not only permits video streaming to nearby classrooms, but to facilities anywhere in the world.

*“Investing in the education and skills of our people today leads to increased prosperity and an improved quality of life.”*

Christopher Bentley  
Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities

Since its successful launch in 2002, the **Foreign-trained Nurse Project** has become *the* model for the integration of foreign-trained professionals into the Canadian workforce, and continues to attract nurses from Somalia, Yugoslavia, the United Arab Emirates, China, Kenya, Egypt, Brazil and the Philippines.

In 2005, we extended our spirit of innovation in an effort to better connect with schools in the communities we serve. In response to the province’s **K to 18 strategy**, which aims to help high school students stay in school and ease their transition to post-secondary learning, we reached out to our seven local school boards and created a novel event entitled *Algonquin College Group of Seven*. Directors of Education and other officials were invited to attend classes at Algonquin and experience a ‘day in the life’ of a college student.

**Other successful efforts** to strengthen Algonquin’s relationship with local high schools included the “*Score your Dream Goal*” contest in partnership with the Ottawa Senators, and as a follow up to the Algonquin’s successful online Everest project, the College brought the “*Every Student has an Everest*” presentation to more than 50 local high schools.

In response to the challenge presented by the Minister of Energy of Ontario to reduce our demand for and consumption of electricity in the Education Sector by 2007, Algonquin has embarked on a process to put in place an **energy performance contract** which will pay for energy-saving measures with the savings in electrical and gas consumption over a 10-year period. This initiative will exceed the Minister's target electricity reductions and contribute significantly to the reduction of green house gasses. The College is also participating in the ACAATO Energy Secretariat initiative to collaborate on energy-saving strategies across the college system.

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## EXCEL.

At Algonquin, our ultimate objective is excellence—it is the culmination of our strategic actions to lead, partner and innovate. In all we do, we strive to build an environment in which learning experiences result in excellent skills development. We continue to work to fulfill that objective with impressive results.

One of the most significant efforts last year was the work of our **Client Service Task Force**, a team of staff members and student leaders who, together, defined a set of standards to guide inter-college communication among faculty, staff and students. The effort was grounded in the College's values of caring, learning, integrity and respect. The task force followed a thorough and systematic process, first engaging students in order to understand their client service expectations. Five expectations were determined—responsiveness, support, courteousness, efficiency and attentiveness. The team then translated those into practical service standards that could be interpreted in a relevant way by each individual department of the College.

*“The service standards developed by the Client Service Task Force are proof of Algonquin’s commitment to the student—to ensuring students feel welcome and supported. Algonquin cares about the success of its students and respects them as individual learners, as clients of this institution. That’s a rare and wonderful thing.”*

Michael Barrett  
President

Algonquin College Students' Association

Another College-wide effort undertaken last year was the pursuit of the **Value Stream initiative** (based on the very successful Toyota manufacturing process) to identify waste and improve efficiency. Work continues on the project and will proceed in the months ahead as we continue to refine our systems and processes.

Excellence also extends to the College's physical surroundings. Algonquin continues to build and provide facilities of the highest calibre for students, enriching and enhancing their learning experiences. In early 2006, the doors of the Students' Association's (SA) \$5.4-million **soccer facility** opened at the Woodroffe Campus. It is the first of its kind in the Canadian college system, featuring a playing surface of synthetic turf with cryogenic rubber infill that spans 130 x 70 yards and bleacher seating for 300 spectators, as well as a 6,000-square foot field house. The facility also includes a removable indoor 60-foot high dome that covers two thirds of the field in the winter months, allowing a full range of indoor activities on several indoor-sized fields. The SA also officially opened *“The Landing”* at the Pembroke campus.

In 2005, Algonquin's excellence was acknowledged widely by a range of **awards**, some of which included:

The *Minister's Award for Excellence in Service* presented to the Perth campus Job Connect office for the second year in a row.

The *2005 Tourism Partnership of the Year Award* to Wilderness Tours and Algonquin College in the Ottawa Valley in recognition of our innovative partnership in training college students for careers in adventure tourism.

*The 2005 Collaborative Educators Award* from the Association of Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology of Ontario for our partnership efforts with the Eastern Region College Committee on Human Resource Development to design and deliver relevant training opportunities to thousands of college faculty and support staff from across Eastern Ontario, and facilitate the sharing of best practices, tools and resources across the college system.

Our **students continue to excel** as exemplified by the fourth Paramedics graduating class in a row to achieve a 100% pass rate in the Advanced - Emergency Medical Care Attendant exams set by the Ministry of Health. Four years in a row of a 100% pass rate is unprecedented and gives Algonquin College the number one rating among Paramedic programs in the province.

Our school newspaper, *Algonquin Times*, was honoured with three prizes in the Ontario Community Newspaper Association newspaper competitions, including first place overall in the college/university general excellence class. Our marketing students dazzled judges at the Canadian Marketing Awards, winning top honours in that competition.

Once again, Algonquin nominated six alumni to the **Ontario Premier's Awards program**, in recognition of their remarkable career achievement since graduating from the College. Our 2005 nominees were:  
Stephen Beckta, Proprietor, Beckta Dining and Wine  
Gerry Davies, Owner/Operator, Heartwood Custom Furniture  
Chris Gordon, Vice-President and General Manager, CHUM Radio Group (Ottawa)  
Kim Hiscott, Director, Kanata Research Park Family Centre  
Dr. Donna MacPhee-Brunet, Dentist and Co-owner, Baseline Dental Centre  
Michael Tremblay, Senior Vice President, Public Services, Canada, SAP Canada Inc.

It is the achievements of our staff, students and alumni that exemplify Algonquin's commitment to the pursuit of excellence.

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## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Please click [here](#) for the audited financial statements for the year ending March 31, 2006, as defined by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities' *Annual Report Operating Procedures*.

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