

MEDIA ADVISORY

Date sent: June 7, 2004
Date of event: June 11 and 12, 2004

Algonquin College Convocations

Of the 4,147 students graduating from the Woodroffe Campus of Algonquin College this spring, nearly 2,000 will attend convocation ceremonies at the Corel Centre on Thursday, June 10, and Friday, June 11.

For the first time, Algonquin Convocations will be held at the Corel Centre. The venue was chosen in order to accommodate increasing numbers of graduates and guests wishing to attend the ceremonies. Algonquin College President Robert Gillett will preside over the presentation of diplomas and certificates at four separate ceremonies.

Thursday, June 10

10:00 a.m. Graduates of the School of Business and the Police and the Public Safety Institute.
Speaker: Barbara Farber, Chair of the Algonquin College Foundation, is the CEO of the Leikin Group, a real estate development and property and asset management company. Mrs. Farber co-chairs the leadership gifts division for the Ottawa Regional Cancer Centre and is a past president of both the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa and the Queensway-Carleton Hospital Foundation. She is also one of three provincially-appointed members of the Ottawa Police Services Board. In 1995 Mrs. Farber received the Nepean Chamber of Commerce Business Women of the Year award.

3:00 p.m. Graduates of the School of Health and Community Studies and the School of Transportation and Building Trades.
Speaker: Susan Schmaltz, a graduate of Algonquin College's Early Childhood Education (ECE) program, received a 2003 Premier's Award in the Applied Arts - Community Services category for her work on behalf of children in both Canada and Guatemala. Following an active career in ECE in Pembroke, Mrs. Schmaltz traveled to Guatemala with her husband where they have established four preschools, a training program in child-centred learning, and a feeding program for the homeless. To prepare for this endeavour she also completed the Registered Practical Nursing program at Algonquin College in the Ottawa Valley. Mrs. Schmaltz is the fifth Algonquin alumnus in six years to receive a Premier's Award.

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Friday, June 11

10:00 a.m. Graduates of the School of Hospitality and Tourism and the School of Media and Design

Speaker: Senator Jim Munson, a well-respected journalist in Canada and abroad, served as Director of Communications to the Prime Minister in Jean Chrétien's cabinet. Previously, Mr. Munson served as a television correspondent for CTV, was the network's Bureau Chief in Beijing from 1987 to 1992, and served as Bureau Chief and senior correspondent in Halifax, N.S. and London, England. Mr. Munson was twice nominated for a Gemini Award in recognition of excellence in journalism.

3:00 p.m. Graduates of the School of Advanced Technology and the School of Academic Advancement and Languages

Speaker: Sean Conway served in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario for 28 years. During that time he held the positions of Minister of Education, Minister of Colleges and Universities, Minister of Mines and Government House Leader as a member of Premier David Peterson's cabinet. His most recent Legislative position was that of Liberal party spokesperson for energy and electricity policy. Currently, Mr. Conway is a policy advisor with the law firm Gowling, Lafleur, Henderson, focusing on the energy and natural resource sector. He is also a regular panelist on the TVO public affairs program *Studio 2* and a Visiting Fellow in the Queen's University School of Policy Studies.

Where: Corel Centre
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