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COMMERCIAL PILOT PROGRAM MOVES TO SPRING INTAKE

PEMBROKE - The Commercial Pilot and Aviation Management Program at Algonquin College in the Ottawa Valley is moving to a spring intake. The program, which has had a fall intake for the past two years, will now begin in early May.

The change was recommended by the program's advisory committee which provides timely feedback to college staff and acts as a link between the college and the aviation industry. Geoff Bohart, a committee member and 2001 graduate of the Commercial Pilot and Aviation Management Program, says it's a good move. "Many of the positions available to new pilots come open in the spring when there is more demand for bush pilots and that's when the graduates will be completing their studies," says Bohart.

The program has also revamped its curriculum to provide students with more opportunities to customize their flight training. In addition to earning their private and commercial licenses, students can also obtain their multi-engine rating, Instrument Flying Rating (IFR) or bush/seaplane certification. They can also work towards their flight instructor's rating as part of their mandatory 200 hours of flight training.

All theory courses, including ground school, are delivered at the Pembroke Campus, while all flight training occurs at the Pembroke and Area Airport. The college offers the program in partnership with the Brampton Flying Club and eligible students can access a specially developed financing package developed by CS Alterna Bank.

Two information sessions will be held to provide applicants with more information on the program. The first will be at the Woodroffe Campus of Algonquin College on Wednesday, January 15th and the second will be at the Pembroke Campus on Thursday, January 16th. Both sessions begin at 7 p.m. and will give students a chance to meet some of their instructors and ask questions about the program.

Applications are now being received through the Ontario College Application Service at www.ontariocolleges.ca. for the first spring intake which begins May 5, 2003. Written applications are also available at any Algonquin College Campus and at local high schools.

For more information, please contact:

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