

**PEMBROKE'S BOARDWALK REPAIRED BY  
ALGONQUIN COLLEGE FORESTRY STUDENTS**

**Pembroke, ON, June 11, 2002** - Students from the Forestry Technician Program at Algonquin College in the Ottawa Valley are helping to repair Pembroke's new millennium boardwalk along the city's waterfront. The boardwalk was damaged earlier this spring by record high water levels in the Ottawa River and strong winds.

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As part of a class project, more than 20 forestry students are leveling off the boardwalk which tilted when the rock and sand that was supporting the walkway, eroded from excessive water on the shoreline. Timbers are being placed under the boardwalk and later this summer concrete will be added to solidify the structure.

The boardwalk opened in July of 2000 following an extensive volunteer effort that saw several community organizations and individuals help build the wooden walkway. The revitalization of the city's waterfront also included the construction of an amphitheater and a small chapel that was built by Algonquin's Forestry Technician class of 1999.

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Forestry Program Co-ordinator, Frank Knaapen, says: "Working on Pembroke's waterfront has provided our students with a meaningful learning experience and has allowed them to leave their mark in the community. It has been very rewarding for the students and their teachers to help Pembroke develop its waterfront into a terrific people place."

Algonquin's Forestry Technician Program has been a mainstay at the Pembroke Campus for more than 35 years. This one-year diploma program focuses on practical training experiences for students and takes advantage of natural resources such as Algonquin Park, the Petawawa National Research Forest, and a variety of other forested areas so abundant in the Ottawa Valley.

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