

## Algonquin College to Launch Water and Waste Water Technician Program

**Ottawa, ON, May 18, 2005** –Algonquin College is launching a new Water and Waste Water Technician program aimed to meet the increasing demand for highly-skilled workers within the water quality industry.

The Ontario government has implemented the most stringent training requirements in North America for water and waste water system operators. Algonquin's new program will give people the training they need to meet these requirements and obtain rewarding jobs in their communities.

The Water and Waste Water Technician program will prepare students to become water and sewage treatment operators, who are in high demand due to the new provincial requirements and the fact that many current operators are nearing retirement.

Students completing the program will be able to work as compliance officers and water analysts with municipal and provincial governments and as lab assistants in private and public labs. Other employment opportunities include positions with consulting engineering companies, construction companies, public inspection agencies and government departments such as public works, transportation, environment, public health and natural resources. Other employment opportunities include positions in industrial plants with waste water treatment facilities, hydro electric and nuclear power generation stations, and water filtration plants and water distribution plants.

"The program will be a practical blend of theory and practice, with many courses including a lab and practical component," said Jan Boogerd, Academic Chair in Algonquin's Architecture / Civil / GIS / Technical Writer Department. "At Algonquin, our ongoing commitment is to provide students with the essential skills required for the workplace of today and of the future."

Algonquin is currently recruiting students to the 48-week diploma program, which is scheduled to begin in September 2005. The deadline to guarantee a seat is May 31, 2005.

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