



*communiqué*

**ALGONQUIN COLLEGE AWARDED FUNDS FOR RESEARCH**

**OTTAWA, February 4, 2002:** Algonquin College of Applied Arts and Technology has been awarded \$781,244 through the Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) to support a project which will see Algonquin become a Centre for Advanced Digital Cinema Research in Canada.

The CFI is a key initiative of the Government to position Canada among the most innovative nations in the world. The projects, selected to receive support through the CFI, follow a highly competitive and independent process. This week's announcement brings the total CFI investment in research at Canadian colleges, universities and research institutions to \$1.55 billion since 1998. "When coupled with contributions from the provinces other funding partners, the total allocation for Algonquin will be approximately \$2.2 million which will be invested in capital and equipment to support the Advanced Digital Cinema Research Centre," says Robert Gillett, President of Algonquin College.

"The Advanced Digital Cinema Research Centre infrastructure will significantly advance the Canadian film and television industry and empower Canadian movie makers to compete in a new global market space by vastly improving our ability to digitally produce, edit and distribute high definition Canadian movies," says Dr. Jack Treuhaft, Director of Research and Development at Algonquin College and Project Team Leader.

In conjunction with Communications Research Centre Canada and our other private-sector partners, the project will help develop the capacity to use high definition (HD) digital tools to create motion pictures on a level currently unattainable on film. The project will also assist Canadian companies to build products uniquely suited to HD digital production which will lead to breakthroughs in Canada's ability to compete on an equal footing with movie makers around the world.

There are six major components of this state-of-the-art infrastructure that allows for the capture, editing, manipulation and display of high definition cinema and video: HD variable frame-rate progressive scan camera package; HD multi format studio video tape recorders; HD plasma and studio monitors; HD digital non-linear post-production systems; Wave vector scope; HD digital cinema projection system.

Adds Dr. Treuhaft, "The above infrastructure for the Advanced Digital Cinema Research Centre will be permanently housed at Algonquin College's broadcast production studios in the School of Media and Design.

"With this CFI award, Algonquin College will be a leader in the development of HD Digital Cinema in Canada" concludes Treuhaft.

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