



Queensway Carleton
Hospital

January 22, 2008

The Honourable Jim Watson
Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing
777 Bay Street, 18th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1S5

Jim
Dear Sir:

I am writing to formally provide strong support to the plan developed by Algonquin College to expand and consolidate its health care programming, resulting in significantly increased enrollment and graduates.

I am advised by my Chief Nursing Officer that Ottawa alone requires over 800 registered nurses annually to fill vacant positions in our hospitals, yet we graduate under 300. The Algonquin College Expansion Plan is critical to addressing the already severe shortages of healthcare professionals, and we are only seeing the tip of the iceberg at present.

We can say first hand from numerous experiences and collaborative projects that the College has a proven track record of responding, innovating and partnering. Their graduates are top-of-class, as a result of excellence in tailored academic programming and, most importantly, the use of hands-on experience gained through state-of-the-art simulation and field experience.

Investment in this health resources plan by the College is crucial to the sustainability of a viable health care system and, as such, is fully supported by the Queensway Carleton Hospital.

Sincerely,

Tom Schonberg
President & CEO

c: Robert Gillett, President, Algonquin College
Gerry Barker, Executive Dean, Faculty of Health, Public Safety & Community Studies