Algonquin College campuses (Ottawa, Pembroke and Perth) are located on the traditional unceded, unsurrendered territory of the Anishinaabe Algonquin People. The Algonquin People have inhabited and cared for these lands long before today. We take this time to show our gratitude and respect to them, and to the land for all that it provides us: trees to give shade, water and food to sustain us and paths to connect us. As a post-secondary institution, we embrace the responsibility to help ensure that the next generations of land stewards are respectful and grateful for the bounty of this land on which we all live, work, play and study.

We commit to continue to explore and make meaningful contributions to the Calls to Action that resulted from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.
Algonquin College is committed to ensuring all students have the chance to transform their hopes and dreams into lifelong success. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who supports student success and innovation. Alumni, faculty and staff, families, industry partners, foundations and community organizations have all contributed to making Algonquin College the leading polytechnic institution it is today. Thanks to your generosity, $3.47 million was raised to support student needs and academic priorities, representing a 29% year-over-year growth. Since 2021 more than $8.4 million has been contributed to support student needs and over $3.5 million has been distributed to 3,760 students for awards, bursaries and scholarships. The culture of philanthropy is strong at the College. Thank you for investing in Algonquin College; thank you for investing in our students.
LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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Schulich Builders Scholarship Program

The Schulich Builders scholarship program is dedicated to students pursuing a career in the skilled trades at ten Ontario colleges, including Algonquin College. In its first year of operation, more than $3 million is committed to combat labour shortages and highlight the importance of skilled trades in Canada through this initiative. Algonquin College was awarded 10 scholarships last year: five $20,000 scholarships for one-year certificate programs, and five $40,000 scholarships for two-year diploma programs. Schulich Builders covers tuition, tools and living expenses for students enrolling in a skilled trade program, and in addition to financial support, Schulich Builders also provides leadership training and mentorship to set up graduates for success.

Dwight and Christine Powless Scholarship

The Dwight and Christine Powless Scholarship, made possible by a generous $20,000 donation from Dwight and Christine Powless, is awarded at Convocation to the graduating Indigenous learner with the highest GPA. Dwight and Christine chose to make their donation because they saw Algonquin College as an institution that would honour their gift and use it to improve the experiences of Indigenous learners, reaffirming the College’s commitment to Truth and Reconciliation. As a former Algonquin College employee, Dwight Powless developed initiatives to improve the lives and experiences of Indigenous learners. His efforts gave him both an insight into and a concern for the challenges faced by learners who rely on funding from an Indigenous band or other Indigenous entity. This donation will serve as both a reward for academic excellence and as an aid for the unique financial issues often faced by Indigenous learners. Powless has written several books — including the recently published A Path Forward, which discusses continuous improvement through an Indigenous lens. He plans to have any royalties received for his new book, titled Your Creativity Sprint, to be added to the scholarship fund, in addition to making a bequest through provisions in their will.

HIGHLIGHTS

This past year we experienced many incredible donations, each with their own story. Here are a few highlights.

“The bursary helped me re-ignite the fire in me to keep pushing forward.”

Ryan
Algonquin College Student
Metropolitain Brasserie Hospitality and Tourism Bursary

An Algonquin College alumna led the establishment of a $10,000 gift to support learners in hospitality programs over the next five years. The Metropolitain Brasserie Hospitality and Tourism Bursary will provide a $1,000 bursary to two students a year, one in the Bachelor of Hospitality and Tourism Management program and the second in the Hospitality – Hotel and Restaurant Operations Management Diploma program.

AC alumna Sarah Chown, who co-owns the Metropolitain Brasserie Restaurant in downtown Ottawa, graduated from the Hotel and Restaurant Management program in 2002 and serves on a program advisory committee in the School of Hospitality and Tourism.

AC Rainbow Bursary

The AC Rainbow Bursary provides financial support to 2SLGBTQ+ students, assisting them with anything they need to feel secure and supported. Students may use the bursary to purchase books, supplies, gender-affirming clothing, secure a legal name change and more. Established during Pride Month 2021 by School of Business professor Angela Lyrette, the AC Rainbow Bursary helps students who identify as 2SLGBTQ+, with special consideration given to students who identify as Black, Indigenous, disabled, trans and/or non-binary.

Syntax Strategic Award

A new award will foster talent from programs such as communications, marketing and design with preference going to Black, Indigenous and people of colour (BIPOC) students to encourage more diversity in the public relations field. The Syntax Strategic Award is awarded annually to two students in their final year of studies. Each student receives $5,000 plus a paid summer internship opportunity.

This new award comes in the wake of companies publicly struggling to find talent and diverse candidates due to the mass exodus of people from the workforce due to COVID-19. Syntax Strategic has presented to many students over the years, providing mentorship and hiring numerous graduates from the College’s professional programs.

Raffle to support the Business – Agriculture program at the Perth Campus

This past year, Algonquin College’s Perth Campus held a raffle to benefit learners in the Business – Agriculture program. Bean Chevrolet Buick GMC Limited generously donated a 2022 GMC Sierra truck, valued at over $71,000, in support of the program. In addition, an early bird draw of $5,000 was also available, sponsored by CI Assante Wealth Management and O’Farrell Wealth & Estate Planning. The raffle raised over $175,000 in support of the Business – Agriculture program.

The Business – Agriculture program is a two-year diploma that teaches business management and agricultural leadership. The curriculum includes a practical week in each semester where learners visit various farms and agribusinesses in the area. Funds raised from the raffle will support costs of transportation for students and their meals.

“I was struggling financially and socially, and this gives me an opportunity to show that life can work if you see the positive side and find some support.”

Ella
Algonquin College Student
Our faculty and employee champions continue to work in partnership with individual, corporate and foundation donors.

You, our donors, mean the world to more than 1,300 Algonquin College learners who received scholarships, bursaries or awards this past academic year. Your support exemplifies the college’s values of caring, learning, integrity and respect.”

Claude Brulé
President and CEO, Algonquin College
Each year, endowed funds help fuel dreams, reward hard work and address urgent needs. Endowed funds are a gift for life and are held by the College in perpetuity, with the primary objective for the portfolio to achieve a rate of return sufficient to meet their annual obligations and grow at a rate greater than inflation to ensure maintenance of their value. Algonquin College’s Board of Governors is responsible for approving the investment policies of the College and for monitoring the performance of the Endowment Funds’ investments relative to established benchmarks.

The current policy outlines a total expenditure rate of 5%, including 4% that is distributed to the students and 1% that is allocated to the College to invest in fundraising initiatives that raise additional funds. The College’s endowed funds are managed by an external professional investment manager, Leith Wheeler, and the asset mix includes Canadian equities, global equities, fixed income, and cash and cash equivalents.

Closing Remarks

With over 18,000 students enrolled in full-time programs and thousands more taking flexible education training courses and targeted programming throughout the year, Algonquin College makes a significant impact on the lives of our learners; the economic, social and environmental conditions of our region; and the productivity and prosperity of Ontario.

Algonquin College continually seeks the support of donors, alumni and industry partnerships to strengthen the academic experience for our learners and graduates to achieve their academic and career goals. Algonquin College is grateful for the many partners and generous donors whose support and contributions help our learners. The generosity from our donors reaffirms our students on their journey to transform their hopes and dreams, and make a difference in their communities.

“Because of the bursary, I could afford to buy myself groceries and afford rent. Not having to worry about finances helped me focus on my schooling... It made a big difference.”

Geneviève
Algonquin College Student
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