

**MEDIA RELEASE**

September 8, 2015

**Algonquin College's Waterfront Campus Sets Enrolment Record**

PEMBROKE, ON - In nearly five decades of serving the Upper Ottawa Valley, the enrolment at Algonquin College's Pembroke Campus has never been higher. More than 950 full-time students will be in class this week as the school year begins at the Waterfront Campus in Pembroke.

Campus Dean, Karen Davies, is thrilled with the increased enrolments. "When we opened the Waterfront Campus in fall 2012, we knew it would be a very special place for students to study. The combination of excellent teaching, a good mix of programs, and a state-of-the-art facility has created a campus atmosphere that is very inviting for students and families, and more are choosing to study with us. It's wonderful!" says Davies.

The Pembroke Campus is the largest of Algonquin College's regional campuses and offers 20 full-time programs, ranging from the skilled trades to health sciences. Almost 50 percent of the students who have registered have had to relocate to the Pembroke area to attend their program. The majority of these out-of-town students are enrolled in unique programs like Outdoor Adventure, Outdoor Adventure Naturalist, Forestry Technician, Radiation Safety and Environmental Technician.

Nursing continues to be the program with the largest enrolment with more than 170 students registered in the four-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree, a program that is offered in collaboration with the University of Ottawa.

Across all programs, there are more than 635 first-year students enrolled, and more than 315 returning students.

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*These three out-of-town students enjoyed a free "moving in night" BBQ for students. They are coming into the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.*

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Manager of Community and Student Affairs, Jamie Bramburger, says the milestone enrolment is a credit to both college employees and the broader community. “Pembroke is a very welcoming city and this resonates with prospective students and their families when they come to visit the campus. This warm community reception enhances our employees’ strong commitment to help our students succeed and to encourage a healthy balance of academic and social activities”, adds Bramburger.



*Photo 1 – Algonquin employees served a free pizza lunch to students who attended the program Advantage Days to take care of their college business before classes started. Cathy Yantha, Dean Karen Davies, Patricia Drotar, Lee Torvi, and Joyce Montgomery get ready for the next wave of students to arrive.*

From humble beginnings of only 16 part-time students in its first year of operation in 1967, the Pembroke Campus has gradually grown to become one of Ontario’s largest and most vibrant regional college campuses. In addition to its full-time programs, the campus also offers academic upgrading classes and apprenticeship training, as well as evening and weekend continuing education courses.

**For more information, contact:**

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