

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Royal Canadian Legion Pembroke Branch 72 Introduces New Bursary at Algonquin College in the Ottawa Valley**

PEMBROKE - Friday, December 9, 2011- The Pembroke branch of the Royal Canadian Legion is honouring the building of a new Algonquin College Campus in the city by creating a bursary for students. Branch 72 has donated \$10,000 to the College, a donation that will be matched by the Ontario government's Trust for Student Success.

"At the Legion, we have had a long-term commitment to supporting students at all levels, and we wanted to do something special for the College as it prepares to open its new waterfront campus," says Branch 72 President, Bob Denault. "Our donation will be a lasting gift that will support dozens of students in their pursuit of a college education. Our membership is very pleased to contribute to the well-being of these students," added Denault.



The Ontario Trust for Student Success has allowed colleges and universities to significantly increase the number of bursaries that are available to students who require financial support. Through these matching dollars, the Legion's donation will be endowed, allowing approximately \$800 in student bursaries to be disbursed annually. Students in all full-time programs at the Pembroke Campus will be eligible to apply for the bursary that will be awarded in the winter semester.

Algonquin College in the Ottawa Valley Dean, Karen Davies, thanked the Pembroke Legion for its generous gift by saying, "The Legion stands as a reminder of our military legacy in Canada and its leadership in supporting community projects and services is commendable. We are pleased to be the latest benefactor of the Legion's good work in our community," added Davies.

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Algonquin College in the Ottawa Valley disburses more than \$150,000 annually through bursaries and in recent years, has seen a substantial increase in the number of local businesses, organizations and individuals who have contributed to student bursaries.

The Algonquin Foundation was established in 2003 to raise funds for student bursaries, awards, scholarships, program equipment and facility enhancements.



Since its establishment, more than 180 endowed bursaries have been set up at all three Algonquin Campuses in Pembroke, Perth and Ottawa to support students facing financial hardship.

The new Pembroke Campus is currently under construction and is scheduled to open to students in September of 2012. It will house more than 1,000 students and will feature 16 classrooms and nine labs, as well as a gymnasium, fitness centre, student commons and library.

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