

October 14, 2010 – Emergency Services Donate \$6,000 to New Campus

Andrew Gagne, organizer of Le Tour d'Ottawa Valley; Dylan Gerundin, and Rob Dickie, present Marie Mask of Algonquin College's Capital Campaign with a cheque for \$6,000 from their September 1, 2010 bike marathon from Ottawa to Pembroke.

MEDIA RELEASE – Sept 15, 2010**Pembroke Emergency Services Support New Algonquin College Ottawa Valley Campus**

The Pembroke Police and Fire Departments are the latest organizations to help Algonquin College achieve its fundraising goal for its new Ottawa Valley Campus. Eight police officers and firefighters in the city donated the money they raise in their annual "Le Tour D' Ottawa Valley" bike ride from Parliament Hill to Pembroke, to the college's capital campaign.

The "Tour" was led by Pembroke Police Association President, Constable Andrew Gagne, who said the eight police officers and firefighters who participated were excited about helping the College with its fundraising efforts. "The College is an important part of our community and from a policing perspective we know that education is vitally important in reducing crime. This new campus is going to provide more opportunities for people in our area to access learning and that will benefit everyone," adds Gagne.

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The police officers and firefighters who participated in the 174 kilometer bike ride raised \$6,000. Over the past six years they have supported other local charities such as the Handi-Bus and Lung Association, generating more than \$33,000 for these community causes. The "Tour D' Ottawa Valley" ride took place on September 15th.



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Algonquin College Capital Campaign Chair, Mark Huckabone, says he is very pleased with the innovative ideas that are being generated by the community to support the College's fundraising drive. "This is another great example of how organizations can help us achieve our goal of raising \$2.5 million and I commend our local police officers and firefighters for getting involved in this exciting project," says Huckabone.

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Algonquin's Dean Karen Davies and Marie Mask are surrounded by the cyclists who participated in the bike marathon. They are from left to right: Jeremy McGinnis (support); Rob Dickie, Pembroke Police Service; Scott Wood; Dan Herback, Pembroke Fire Department; Karen Davies, Dean of Pembroke Campus; Shawn Morgan; Marie Mask, Capital Campaign Administrator; Jeff Cotnam; Andrew Gagne (tour organizer), and Eric Steeves (support).

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Photo 1 – Starting out on Parliament Hill in Ottawa.



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