

MEDIA RELEASE**For Immediate Release****LOCAL UNION SUPPORTS NEW PEMBROKE COLLEGE CAMPUS**

PEMBROKE, ON – December 16, 2009 - Algonquin College's capital campaign to build a new campus in downtown Pembroke, has received a show of support from a local union. Local 629 of the Union of National Defence Employees (UNDE) based at CFB Petawawa, recently presented a cheque for \$1,000 to Karen Davies, Pembroke Campus Dean.

Steve Gauthier, local UNDE president, made the presentation on behalf of his membership. UNDE is the largest union at CFB Petawawa, representing over 700 employees whose jobs range from skilled trades workers and mechanics, to food services staff, drivers, firefighters and a variety of technicians. Gauthier explained that the civilian employees do their work in support of the troops and keep the base running and stabilized when the soldiers are deployed.

"Many of our union members have been educated at Algonquin College and a number of our employees are apprentices currently completing their education through Algonquin as well", said Gauthier. "This is why we wanted to show our support to the new campus project. I would also like to challenge other local unions to match or beat UNDE's donation in support of Renaissance Square", he added.

Since the College announced that it will start to build a new campus in Pembroke in the spring of 2011, a number of community businesses, organizations, unions and individuals have come forward with generous donations to support the project.



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Mark Huckabone, chair of the capital campaign committee, is grateful to UNDE for its support of the capital campaign. "Algonquin College has trained many skilled workers over the years and is looking forward to bringing more apprenticeship and training opportunities closer to home after the new campus opens in September 2012."

The College hopes to raise \$2.5 million locally towards the cost of the project which will total \$36 million. A number of community fundraising opportunities are planned for 2010 including a unique "College-opoly" game board challenge and a golf tournament.

Anyone who would like more information about Renaissance Square, the new campus project, may contact Marie Mask, Campaign Administrator, by calling 613-735-4700, ext. 2842, or visit the website at:
www.algonquincollege.com/pembrokenewcampus.

For more information, contact:

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