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Algonquin Centre for Construction Excellence Receives LEED Platinum Certification

Posted on Monday, November 5th, 2012 at 5:55 pm in [Announcements](#) [Feature Articles](#) and tagged [ACCE](#), [Algonquin Centre for Construction Excellence](#), [Algonquin College](#), [Canada](#), [LEED](#), [Ottawa](#), [President Kent MacDonald](#), [Woodroffe](#)

The Algonquin Centre for Construction Excellence has officially received LEED® Platinum certification from the Canada Green Building Council.

"The Algonquin Centre for Construction Excellence is a model of sustainable development," says Algonquin College President Kent MacDonald. "The building functions as a living laboratory which supports the learning of our students in a

unique way unlike any other postsecondary institution in Canada. We would like to thank all who assisted in its construction including EllisDon Corporation, Diamond and Schmitt Architects Inc., and Edward J Cuhaci and Associates Architects Inc., and I commend our Physical Resources team for their leadership."

Opened on Algonquin College's Woodroffe Campus in September 2011, the Algonquin Centre for Construction Excellence (ACCE) brings the next generation of carpenters, plumbers, civil engineering technologists, interior designers, and many other trades and professions under a single, green roof. ACCE offers over 190,000 square feet of inter-professional space designed to encourage collaboration between disciplines, and offers many integrated and cross-program learning opportunities for students.

The architecture, structural elements, construction methods and craftsmanship, finishes, and building systems inside ACCE have been designed to maximize applied learning opportunities for Algonquin College students. Some systems have been left exposed so the students are able to closely examine the facility's construction and further their knowledge about green building practices. Monitored building performance, and data from thousands of networked sensors, provides the students with real-time and historic information about building system performance for educational and research purposes.

With its open demonstration spaces and many design and sustainability features, ACCE is a natural hub for the entire trades and design industry as well as its associations. Bringing together students, professors, and researchers with local builders and tradespeople will create synergies, increase industry awareness, and produce highly-skilled graduates who are familiar with the collaboration requirements of today's construction and design sectors.

"I am very pleased to congratulate the Algonquin Centre for Construction Excellence for earning LEED®



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Platinum status,” says CaGBC President and CEO Thomas Mueller. “It is a truly remarkable building not just for its environmental achievements, but as a tangible example to the students who learn within its walls. Through this building, Algonquin College champions sustainability on campus and shows leadership to the surrounding community.”

A five-storey bio wall made up of living plants filters the air, providing oxygen to the atrium space and all five connected floors. The ACCE Building’s design also includes features like the green roof, solar panels, a storm water recovery system, and many other green innovations incorporated into the building’s design.

ACCE has been made possible by the support of the College community and all levels of government. The \$79-million ACCE building was funded through the Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP), and contributions from the Government of Ontario, the Government of Canada, the Constructing our Future Capital Campaign, and the City of Ottawa.

The awards received by ACCE include:

- Academic Leadership Award presented by the Canada Green Building Council.
- SCUP/AIA-CAE Award for Excellence in Architecture presented by the Society for College and University Planning / American Institute of Architects — Committee on Architecture for Education.
- Green Award presented by the Greater Nepean Chamber of Commerce at their 2012 Business Achievement Awards.

The ACCE building was also listed as a stop on this year’s “Doors Open Ottawa” event. [Download the self-guided tour.](#)

The official announcement of the Algonquin Centre for Construction Excellence receiving its LEED® Platinum Certification comes just a short time after the opening of the Robert C. Gillett Student Commons, which is a LEED® Certification Candidate. Algonquin’s leadership in sustainability is rooted in its early adoption of the LEED Gold standard for all campus facilities.

More information about the ACCE building can be found on the building’s website –

<http://www2.algonquincollege.com/acce/>

About Algonquin College – www.algonquincollege.com:

Algonquin College of Applied Arts and Technology is located in the nation’s capital and the Ottawa Valley, and is the largest college in Eastern Ontario, with 18,000 full-time and 35,000 part-time students in more than 170 programs. Algonquin is a leader in the integration of technology into learning, and is strongly committed to student success.

About the Canada Green Building Council – <http://www.cagbc.org/>

The CaGBC is the leading national industry organization advancing green building and sustainable community development practices. The CaGBC reduces environmental impacts from the built environment through education/training, building certification, performance benchmarking and reporting, advocacy, and information sharing. It is also the license holder for the LEED green building rating system in Canada.

About LEED®:

LEED® is a third-party certification program and an internationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings. It provides building owners and operators the tools they need to have an immediate and measurable impact on their building’s performance. LEED rating systems encourage and accelerate the global adoption of sustainable green building and development practices through the creation and implementation

- [Visit the Algonquin Centre for Construction Excellence for Doors](#)

Open Ottawa

- **Official Opening and Ribbon-cutting for the Algonquin Centre for Construction Excellence**

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