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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DRDH Endorses Nursing Bursary

(Deep River) - In order to encourage applications to Algonquin College's nursing program at the Pembroke campus in September 2004, the board of governors of the Deep River and District Hospital endorsed the creation of a special bursary for three first year students from the area. The students will receive a \$1,000 bursary for each semester in their first year.

This is part of an innovative initiative created by the ten Renfrew County nursing employers to ensure that the College obtains enough qualified candidates to reach its intake goal of 25 students this fall at the Pembroke campus.

"The board members recently received information about the impending human resource challenges in nursing as well as the re-introduction of the nursing program at Algonquin. We agreed that this was one positive contribution we could make to promote the profession while promoting employment at the hospital," said DRDH chairman Ivan Emmerton.

The support for this bursary comes on the heels of the College's recent commitment to launch an aggressive recruitment campaign for the Fall 2004 session. The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) program, offered in collaboration with the University of Ottawa, educates nurses at the undergraduate and graduate levels through an approach that encourages self-direction, critical thinking and life-long learning.

In addition, the hospital auxiliary representative on the board Carol Gilks noted that these students would also be eligible for one of two annual awards provided to Mackenzie High School graduates pursuing additional education in health sciences. Applications for the longstanding DRDH Auxiliary award are made in the spring through the school.

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