[EN01] Mission

It is the mission of the Algonquin Students' Association to create an environment that inspires a passion for student success.

1. Inclusive of the values of both Algonquin College and the Students' Association, **environment** is defined as:

   (1) A fair and just campus. This means:

       (1.1) Students will be addressed and treated as adults,

       (1.2) The right for students to control their own person without violating the rights of others is respected, and

       (1.3) Legal rights that apply off campus also apply on campus.

   (2) Smoking zones that are:

       (2.1) Clearly designated,

       (2.2) Conveniently located, but away from main entrances and high traffic areas,

       (2.3) Equipped with proper waste disposal and protection from inclement weather, and

       (2.4) Strictly enforced.

   (3) A welcoming, inclusive, and safe community. This includes:

       (3.1) Commitment to Truth and Reconciliation,

       (3.2) Visibility for the 2SLGBTQI+ community,

       (3.3) Protection of freedom of speech, thought, and expression, and

       (3.4) Responsiveness to the needs of the international community.

       (3.5) Reduced stigma surrounding mental health support through effective promotion of services, ensured visibility, and integration into student life.

   (4) An informed student body that is:

       (4.1) Empowered with a sense of ownership,

       (4.2) Intimate in knowledge of the entitlements, processes, and services of the Algonquin Students' Association, College, and the community, and

       (4.3) Understanding of how to exercise their democratic rights.

   (5) Integration of sustainability philosophy, such as:

       (5.1) The conscious balance of social, ecological, and economic factors within complex systems,

(5.2) The ability for complex systems to be rapidly evaluated and adapted to improve the present and invest in future opportunities,

(5.3) Adaptability to non-linear and unpredictable change,

(5.4) A sustainability committee co-chaired by the Algonquin Students' Association and Algonquin College for the purpose of driving integration, and

(5.5) Educational and promotional material focused on sustainability.

(6) Academics dedicated to learning and producing reputable graduates that demonstrate a high level of applied knowledge. This is done through:

(6.1) Curriculum that matches evolving industry standards and employer expectations,

(6.2) Program delivery that supports effective learning through:

(a) The innovative use of resources that engage students and enrich their learning experience,

(b) A week-long study break from scheduled classes and deadlines every semester, and

(c) Experiential learning in every program.

(6.3) A single, reliable learning management system with:

(a) A user-friendly focus,

(b) Mandatory faculty training,

(c) A consistent function and format for all courses within a program, and

(d) A functional calendar system that includes all course related dates.

(6.4) A growing and evolving pool of General Education elective courses that provide:

(a) Language training that advances French proficiency,

(b) Relevant life skills,

(c) Heightened cultural awareness, and

(d) Algonquin language courses.

(6.5) Various mechanisms that allow continuous feedback between students, faculty, and administrators. These include:

(a) Program councils,

(b) Algonquin College and Students' Association surveys,

(c) Focus groups, and

(d) Class representative meetings.

(6.6) Responsible and ethical use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in academics that is governed by clear and consistent policy that considers the unique needs of each program and its respective industry landscape.

(a) Students will be informed about AI guidelines and policies to ensure clarity and fairness.

(b) Guidelines and policies align with each academic department's curriculum and consider the unique needs of each program and its respective industry landscape.

(c) AI use in academics is transparent, with clear distinctions between ethical assistance and academic misconduct.

(d) Students receive clear guidance on inappropriate AI use, such as generative AI when used beyond acceptable academic practices.

(e) Course Section Information (CSI) states the requirements and method for the citation of AI use.

(7) Commitment to eliminating financial barriers to education at Algonquin College. This means:

(7.1) Economically justifiable costs for education, including:

(a) The choice to not acquire a resource if there is an associated cost,

(b) A no-cost alternative way for any evaluation that has a cost associated with it,

(c) Continuous development and implementation of open education resources, and

(d) A well-defined, justified, and annually reviewed list of required learning resources for each course.

(7.2) Access to financial resources.

(a) Financial literacy education, and

(b) Bursaries, scholarships, grants, and awards.

(7.3) Relief from health-related financial burdens.

(a) Flexible and customizable insurance plans.

(b) Timely access to affordable mental health support.

(7.4) Access to emergency food relief on campus.

(7.5) Access to employment opportunities that are appropriate while pursuing studies at Algonquin.

(8) Well-designed and inviting campuses that are:

(8.1) Safe and secure,

(8.2) Accessible,

(8.3) Clean and well maintained, and

(8.4) Balance academic, study, creative, and social spaces.

    (a) Academic spaces with appropriate infrastructure and equipment to support effective curriculum delivery.

    (b) Study spaces that enable individual, collaborative, and silent study.

    (c) Social spaces that encourage renewal and friendship.

(9) A dignified, accessible, and affordable housing experience across all campuses, with a college strategically engaged with local municipalities in support of suitable options for student housing that actively reflect the institutional values.

(9.1) Have a quality residence in Pembroke that meets the diverse needs of current and future students.

(9.2) Have a quality residence in Perth that meets the diverse needs of current and future students.

(9.3) Have a quality residence in Ottawa that meets the diverse needs of current and future students.

(9.4) Off-campus housing that is attainable, close to campus, and safe for students.

(10) Fully integrates the pursuit of Truth, Reconciliation, and Indigenization as a critical tool in recognizing and dismantling colonial patterns of environmental and social exploitation.

(10.1) Commitment to Truth and Reconciliation.

(10.2) Algonquin cultural and language courses as options for general electives.

(10.3) Recognizing the use of Aboriginal healing practices.

    (a) Aboriginal healers and elders teaching within community service programs.

(10.4) Memorial for the fallen children and survivors of the residential school system.

(10.5) Integration of student programs into local Indigenous communities.

(11) Accessible, affordable, and quality transportation options with:

(11.1) Timely and accessible communication of updates,

(11.2) Active engagement with external stakeholders,

(11.3) Continuous improvement of transportation infrastructure, and

(11.4) Enhanced safety measures for transit stops surrounding campus.

2. **Student Success** is defined as developing and possessing the tools, skills, and knowledge to continue a path towards achieving one's goals. This includes:

(1) Completion of a program or personal education goals with a seamless transition to:

(1.1) A meaningful career,
(1.2) Further education, or
(1.3) A professional designation.

(2) Continued growth as a:

(2.1) Person with:

(a) Clarity of direction,
(b) A healthy and balanced life,
(c) Self-awareness, and
(d) Self-confidence

(2.2) Professional with:

(a) Skills to improve employability,
(b) Leadership,
(c) Effective communication, and
(d) Teamwork

(2.3) Network for providing:

(a) Exposure to employers, and
(b) Mentorships.

(2.4) Relevant experience through:

(a) Experiential learning,
(b) Entrepreneurship, and
(c) Volunteer opportunities.

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