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TODAY

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Algoma University's School of Business and Economics partners with Flight 6ix to introduce new Aviation programming in the heart of downtown Brampton.



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Algoma University Alumni Magazine is published by the Communications Department of Algoma University.

Algoma University Alumni Magazine is printed in Canada.

Algoma U Today is published by the University for the University's alumni, faculty, staff and friends. The magazine is the University's primary vehicle for providing information on the accomplishments of alumni, faculty and students, and on significant issues and developments within the University community.

Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement no. 40005450

Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to:
 ALGOMA UNIVERSITY
 1520 Queen Street East
 Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario
 Canada P6A 2G4

CONNECTING IN NEW WAYS

Message from the
Alumni Council Chair

I am excited to be back as your Alumni Council Chair. Algoma University holds a special place in my heart, and it is exciting to see how the university has responded to the challenges the pandemic has presented and how our strategic efforts have accelerated our growth and prepared Algoma to soar to new heights.

As history has demonstrated, challenges present opportunities — new ways of doing, new advances in technology, new strategies, and a collective resolve to turn something negative into something new and rewarding.

The Alumni Council is looking forward to embracing new ways of staying connected, engaging with one another, and helping to mentor

and support current students who will soon be embarking upon careers of their own in a world that is very different now. We encourage all alumni, supporters, and community partners to join us as we move to better days ahead.

Now is the time to reconnect, stay in touch and to get involved. We optimistically look towards the future, and to creating a host of opportunities for us all to reconnect and to grow as an Algoma U Alumni family.



Adam Carpenter



SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS

President's Message

Thanks to the hard work and resilience of our Thunderbird family, Algoma University continues to “soar to new heights”. This fall, students, faculty, and staff in Brampton and Sault Ste. Marie are safely transitioning back to increased on-campus learning and activity. As a result of the considerable hard work of many, they return to innovative and expanded facilities, exciting new academic programs, record setting enrolment, and Algoma’s growing presence on the national stage as a leader within the university sector in the areas of truth, healing, and reconciliation.

The transformation of Algoma is best exemplified by the growth and expansion of our Brampton campus. From new buildings and state of the art classrooms, to exciting new programming including the Aviation Management Program recently launched by the School of Business and Economics in partnership with Flight Six, this campus has really taken off. Our

success would not be possible without the ongoing support of city officials and amazing community partners such as John Cutruzzola, who is featured in these pages.

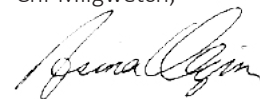
Innovative new developments in the School of Computer Science and Technology will help ensure our graduates have the knowledge and abilities for long-term success. The dual-credential in computer science, developed in partnership with our friends at Northern College in Timmins, is just one example. Continued expansion of our e-learning capacity has enabled Algoma to tap into new student markets, while supporting current students during the pandemic with new classroom and computer lab facilities in place for those returning to on-campus learning in Sault Ste. Marie and Brampton.

Finally, Algoma continues to assume an increasing presence on the national stage in relation to our Special Mission and the university sector’s response to

truth, healing, and reconciliation. The tragic news out of Kamloops this spring reinforced the importance of this work and our overall efforts to support cross-cultural learning and equity, diversity and inclusion. A number of new initiatives, including the Mukqua Waakaa’igan project, are underway to help support this effort.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of Algoma U Today, which highlights a number of the key initiatives and individuals that are helping Algoma soar. Together, we can do amazing things for the benefit of all.

Chi-Miigwetch,



Asima Vezina,
President and Vice-Chancellor
Algoma University

ALGOMA UNIVERSITY'S BRAMPTON CAMPUS: Expanding student access through a vital north-south link

Written by Jessica Ferlaino

The Algoma University ecosystem is growing, and just in time to support anticipated overall growth to just under 3,300 full-time equivalent (FTE) students during the 2021-2022 school year. What is even more exciting is that growth on Algoma's Sault Ste. Marie, Brampton and Timmins campuses is projected to push the institution past its target of 3,000 FTEs well ahead of schedule.

While there is growth across the board, there is a marked increase in interest in the Brampton campus. It is increasing in size, programming, reputation, and presence in the city's downtown core, where it has operated since it was first established in 2009.

Though COVID-19 has introduced its share of challenges. The pandemic also offered a unique opportunity, as it enabled Algoma University at Brampton to more than double its footprint in less time than originally anticipated.

"We accelerated a five-year plan and achieved it in 18 months," said Vice-President of Growth, Innovation and External Relations, Craig Fowler. *"Last year, at this time, we occupied about 13,000 square feet. Over the past nine months we've expanded by 19,000 square feet."*

From a programming standpoint, there are three pillars to the campus growth strategy: The School of Business and Economics (SchoolBE), School of Computer Science and Technology (SCST), and the highly anticipated Centre for Social, Cultural and Economic Innovation (CSCEI).

In 2019, the School of Business and Economics expanded its capacity to support upwards of 500 students, with help from a \$575,000 contribution from the City of Brampton. Only a short time

later, the School was growing again.

The City of Brampton approved another \$7.3 million to take campus capacity from 500 students to over 1,000 by 2023 – a feasible target considering plans to add new academic programs over the same period. The city's investment clearly demonstrates Algoma's value, promising \$29.50 of return to the local economy for every \$1 spent.

Phase II of the Brampton Campus expansion was completed in time for the return to fall term classes following an 18-month hiatus from in-person learning. The spaces have been thoughtfully designed with carefully selected building materials that reflect the spirit and identity of the institution.

During Phase II of construction, 24 Queen Street East was completely transformed. The campus now occupies three floors of the building, with classrooms and a new welcome centre on the main level, as well as space in two additional buildings.

Administrative suites are located at 52 Queen Street East. A new student centre, faculty offices, student government and support services along with the CSCEI will be located at the clock tower building at 8 Queen Street East.

The institution's partnerships have also expanded. In addition to the City of Brampton, Algoma has grown its relationships with its downtown neighbors, such as the Brampton Board of Trade, and the Downtown Business Improvement Area (BIA), as well as many educational partners.

A great example is its partnerships with Ryerson and Sheridan, who also have a presence in Brampton. Building on respective strengths, the trio has the shared goal of establishing innovative new programming and infrastructure in three core areas: cyber science and security, mental health and addictions, and digital health innovations.

Additionally, Algoma University signed 26 new pathway agreements with colleges in the province to support students looking to complement their diplomas with fast-tracked university degrees.

This is especially important for school boards in the Peel Region and surrounding areas, like the Brampton Innovation District, which runs between Brampton and Waterloo, where population growth is driving demand for local, high-quality post-secondary education.

"Peel has really been looking for options for students, local options. The University of Toronto at Mississauga and Guelph Humber are great, but there are so many people in Peel and so many students that might not have the ability to travel," noted Fowler. *"Having more post-secondary options is really important for the school boards."* Especially

"Last year, at this time, we occupied about 13,000 square feet. Over the past nine months we've expanded by 19,000 square feet."

one with a Special Mission such as Algoma's.

Brampton has long desired a university it could call its own and now it has one: a university for the south with northern roots. Fowler believes the north-south link enables Algoma to meet the needs of the region while still allowing the Sault Ste. Marie campus to adapt to the needs of

Northern and Northeastern Ontario, while improving the interconnectivity of the North-South Corridor.

“It’s the approach we need to take, because the best way to leverage our success and replicate that success is by using what we know we’re good at,” said Fowler, which in this case is Algoma University’s Special Mission and the ability to support the communities it calls home.

Algoma University at Brampton certainly serves the community in that regard, but there is a deeper historical connection to

the lands upon which it sits. Long before Brampton was a city, it was referred to as Chinguacousy Township, a name that honoured Chief Shingwauk and his contributions to the area.

Now, one of the largest and most diverse cities in Canada, Brampton is the perfect place to expand Chief Shingwauk’s vision of a “teaching wigwam” centred on cross-cultural teaching and learning, allowing Algoma University to bring the teachings tied to its Special Mission to even more diverse bodies of students

and community members.

“The Shingwauk site is special and unique,” said Fowler, “but a lot of what we are doing and taking away, the Seven Grandfather teachings, the importance of Indigeneity, this also is occurring in Brampton, and it’s great. The City of Brampton recognizes they are on treaty lands and they are looking to us to help with this as well,” said Fowler and as the Brampton Campus grows, so too will its impact.



ALGOMA U – SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS WITH AVIATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Written by Brian Leahy



As part of the continued expansion of academic programming at Algoma's campus in the heart of downtown Brampton, an innovative new program, Aviation Management, was recently developed by the Algoma University School of Business and Economics (SchoolBE) in partnership with Flight 6ix, a private flight training school.

In late August, representatives from the SchoolBE and the Algoma University leadership team joined a select group of aviation industry professionals and academic and political leaders at Pearson International Airport to officially celebrate the launch. Mayor Patrick Brown from the City of Brampton and Captain Doug Morris, a well-known pilot and member of the SchoolBE Aviation Advisory Committee, were two featured speakers at the event.

This strategic initiative was created for those interested in pursuing careers in the growing aviation industry, including those wishing to become pilots. Algoma University is one of only three universities in Ontario to offer aviation management programming.

"Algoma's Aviation Management programming builds upon an expanding

slate of options available to students wishing to pursue university-level studies in Brampton," shared Cathy Denomme, Director of the Algoma University School of Business and Economics. *"As we emerge from the pandemic, significant growth is expected within the aviation industry. In fact, Canada is expected to face a shortage of 3,000 pilots and 55,000 workers overall in the aviation industry by 2025, and our programming addresses these needs directly."*

In addition to curriculum focussed on aviation management, students interested in learning to pilot an aircraft will have the option to receive training from Flight 6ix, a Transport Canada certified flight training establishment and pilot school. Flight 6ix boasts a team of aviation industry veterans. Its instructors have experience

with a range of major airlines including Air Canada, WestJet, Emirates, Etihad, Saudia, Qatar Airways, and Air India.

"Pilots and aviation professionals in Canada often have to partake in their academic education endeavours and flight training programs in isolation resulting in valuable time lost," notes Waseem Javed, Chief Executive Officer at Flight 6ix. *"A specialized degree with the presence of a multi-dimensional education platform through Algoma University and inclusion of flight training through Flight 6ix, not only fill[s] that much-needed gap but provides future aviation professionals the ability to enter their careers possessing skills which would otherwise have taken years to develop."*

Further information on these exciting new programs is available at algomau.ca.



John Cutruzzola is a visionary city builder who makes every effort to leave spaces better than when he found them. This is true of his construction company, his passion for arts and culture, and his philanthropic efforts in the community.

Like many immigrants, Cutruzzola moved to Canada in search of a better life, and he worked hard to make this a reality for himself and the community he calls home. A master stone mason by trade, which is an artform in itself, he worked out of necessity while also following his dream of becoming a visual artist.

"My childhood was such that I couldn't do any of the things I had in my mind and in my heart," he recalled. "My desire was painting, arts, but the conditions didn't allow me to develop any of that because I was born right in the middle of the war, and there wasn't much good stuff around to see other than the consequences of war: soldiers, bombing and misery."

For over fifty years, Cutruzzola's company, Inzola Construction Inc., has

JOHN CUTRUZZOLA: A visionary city builder

Written by Jessica Ferlaino

been contributing to the structural and cultural fabric of Brampton with landmark projects like the Rose Theatre, Brampton City Hall, and the Art Gallery of Peel, some of which are now home to an ever-growing Algoma University campus.

"It's a privilege that I can have this school in my building. That is a source of pride," says Cutruzzola.

In Italy, the only place he could find art was in the church, so when he arrived in Canada, Cutruzzola immersed himself in arts, culture, and learning. For more than twenty years, when the workday came to an end, you could find him enrolled in construction technology and arts courses via distance learning. He is also a classically trained vocalist.

Education was a gateway to fulfillment for Cutruzzola which is why he sees value in the educational experience Algoma University provides, especially for those who, like him, are immigrants or first-generation students. As he noted, *"What I admire about Algoma is that new young Canadians, people can feel part of it, involved."*

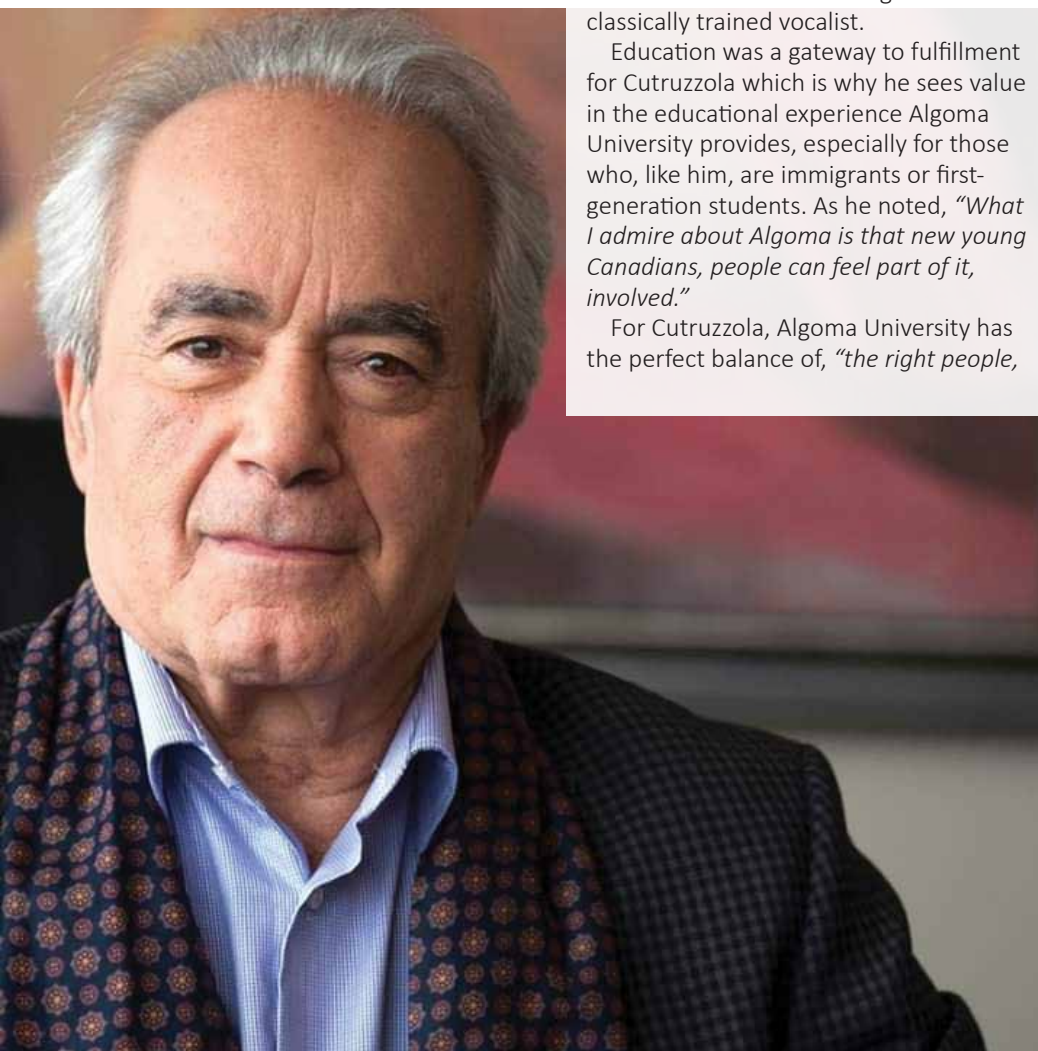
For Cutruzzola, Algoma University has the perfect balance of, *"the right people,*



the right mind and the right intent, and they are doing the right thing." Its urban location matters as well. Brampton has the population and the diversity needed for an institution dedicated to cross-cultural learning and exchange to thrive.

"I think in terms of how a university functions in modern times, or should function in urbanization," said Cutruzzola. *"It's the feeling that the university has to play a role in city building and it has a role to play much more than the aristocratic objective of the past."*

"Algoma is a university that feels accessible, it feels human," he continued. *"There is a difference from the big universities. Algoma for me is a different kind of approach to teaching and I think people feel there is a more personal feeling. You see that with the professors. You see that with the approach. I see it with the buildings. It's different and I hope they keep it that way as it grows."*



STEPHANIE RESE: A champion for the north

Written by Jessica Ferlaino

Algoma Alumni continue to do great work in their communities. Take Stephanie Rese (St. Pierre), who graduated from the social work program in 2018. As a mature student, she sought a career change and Algoma University at Northern College in Timmins was the perfect opportunity to help move her to the next level.

Rese was no stranger to post-secondary education. She has a degree from the University of Waterloo in Social Development Studies, and a diploma in Social Work from Renison University College. But Algoma University was different – it had a northern focus and it was accessible.

As Rese recalled, “I was looking for something that would be a good fit for me, and social work was something that I felt I had been doing informally for many

years via my support network. I was thrilled to have access to a high-level degree program within my own community.”

She added, “Algoma was everything I had hoped for in a university experience, and that was unexpected for me living in the north. I was able to

visit the campus in Sault Ste. Marie, which was a very emotional experience, as it is a former residential school.”

Learning from Indigenous professors and participating in ceremonies was

“The career I have now in mental health was made possible due to my education with Algoma.”

particularly impactful for her. The experience gave her a wider perspective and enabled her to effectively support her community as an Addictions and Mental Health Worker with the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA)’s Assertive Community Treatment Team (where Rese did her student placement).

“The career I have now in mental health was made possible due to my education with Algoma,” she said. “Graduating with a professional degree gave me a sense of accomplishment and identity as a social worker that has made me feel very grounded in who I am and confident in the work that I do.”

Rese is also the founder of Chromosome 22 Central (www.c22c.org), a group that supports over 4,000 parents of children with various chromosome 22 disorders internationally. “I began this work in 1996 shortly after the birth of my daughter Maia, who has a rare chromosome disorder known as Emanuel Syndrome,” she explained. “Part of the work I do is not only supporting families in their experiences, but I have also contributed to three published studies on my daughter’s disorder.”

One of those projects is *Raising the Goddess of Spring: A guide for parents raising children with rare chromosome disorders*. The book was ten years in the making. It is a collaboration with Dr. Melissa Carter, a geneticist at the Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario in Ottawa; Murney Rinholm, current president of C22C; and 65 families who have experienced life with rare chromosome disorders.

“It was important for me to do this project because as a parent coming into this journey, I felt there wasn’t a book on the market that was specific to rare chromosome disorders,” she noted.

No subject was off limits; the book discusses everything from diagnosis to reproductive challenges for those who carry genetic differences, as well as what it is like to lose a child and have to carry on.

While Rese credits Algoma University with much of her success, she was doing great work in her community long before she enrolled. The additional learning amplified her ability to have a positive impact in her work and in her community, an opportunity she hopes is afforded to more people in the North through expanded programming and continued growth at the Timmins Campus.



ALGOMA UNIVERSITY CONTINUES TO EXPAND UNDERGRADUATE ACCESS IN TIMMINS

Written by Brian Leahy

When Algoma University was granted its charter in 2008 by the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, a key element entrenched in the institution's dual Special Mission was to support access to university level studies with "a particular focus on the needs of Northern Ontario." The evolution and expansion of Algoma's presence in Timmins and the surrounding region is a prime example of the manifestation of this mission.

Building on the success of degree completion programming in Social Work and Community Development, Algoma University and Northern College recently announced a new and innovative academic program. This program builds on the long-standing partnership between the two Northern Ontario-based institutions as they work to expand post-secondary access in the region.

The new "dual credential" program provides secondary school graduates and other eligible students with an opportunity

to complete both a Computer Engineering Technician diploma and a Bachelor of Computer Science degree in just three years (seven terms) of full-time study.

"This partnership is critical to the growth of post-secondary education in Northern Ontario while addressing regional labour market needs," shared Asima Vezina, President and Vice-Chancellor of Algoma University during a virtual agreement signing and program launch. *"The dual credential is an example of how our collaboration with Northern College has evolved. I look forward to continuing to expand the options we can provide for our students and the communities in which they live and work."*

The program gives participating students a chance to earn two different academic credentials for a three-year educational investment, completing their diploma and degree seamlessly with both on-site and online learning. The new offering helps students develop a range

of in-demand skill sets that relate to the Information Technology industry, including Cisco (CCNA), CCNA Security, Networks +, A+ Certification, Server+ and Linux + Certification.

Both institutions believe in the importance of offering a range of learning opportunities for fulfilling educational post-secondary experiences. Innovative academic programming such as the dual credential in Computer Science is just one of a growing slate of options for students seeking to complete their higher education in the region.

Algoma continues to engage with community leaders as it examines possibilities for further strategic expansion in the region. President Vezina and other members of the university's leadership team visited Timmins in November for a series of engagement events with key stakeholders and members of the region's education community to further advance related planning.



VIRTUAL CONVOCATION CELEBRATES SUCCESS OF 2021 GRADUATING CLASS

Convocation is always a special time of year but the global pandemic has caused all universities to shift away from in-person traditions to support the health and safety of their communities.

This past spring we celebrated the special accomplishments of our graduating class virtually. The day was made even more special with the induction of Mario Turco as Chancellor. We wish to recognize a few of the remarkable individuals who were honoured during the event.

Congratulations to the Class of 2021!



INSTALLATION OF CHANCELLOR - MARIO TURCO



SENATE AWARD - JOHN CUTRUZZOLA AND BILL KANELLOPOULOS (2020)



HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT - C.J. (BUD) WILDMAN, DOCTOR OF LETTERS



GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SILVER MEDAL - REBECCA WYLIE



DISTINGUISHED FACULTY - DR. WARREN JOHNSTON (2020), DR. TREVOR CHIR (2021)





2021 GRADUATION AWARD RECIPIENTS

Governor General's Silver Academic Medal	Rebecca Wylie
BBA Economics Gold Medal	Cameron Mihell
BBA Human Resources Management Gold Medal	Amy Jackson
BBA Marketing Gold Medal	Broderick Collison
Calam, Rossi Accounting Award	Madelynn Windle
Award of Excellence in Finance and Economics Gold Medal in Business	Thomas Barber Christopher Rancourt
Award of Excellence in Biology	Rebecca Wylie
Award of Excellence in Computer Science (Honours)	George VanOyen
Award of Excellence in Computer Science (General)	Leviathan Guillena
Award of Excellence in Environmental Science	Kaitlyn Plastino
Jim Gibson English Award (Honours)	Ashley Johnston
President's Purchase Award (FINA)	Hillary Evans
President's Purchase Award (FINA)	Samantha Pine-Bennett
Award of Excellence in Geography	Trevor Childs
Award of Excellent in History (Honours)	Sophia Hicks
Award of Excellence in History (General)	Claudie Lecours
Award of Excellence in Law & Justice (Honours)	Stephanie Hamacher
Award of Excellence in JURI/POLI (Honours)	Carolyn Devon
Award of Excellence in Law & Justice (General)	MiShele Lapham
Award of Excellence in Music	William Jackson Reed
Award of Excellence in Psychology (General)	Alexis Lewis
Award of Excellence in Psychology (Honours)	Melody Doiron
Award of Excellence in Psychology (BSc)	Shyan Campbell
Award of Excellence in Social Work	Carly Roy



VIRTUAL CONVOCATION SET-UP - DR. LAURIE BLOOMFIELD

ELISE AHENKORAH RECEIVES 2021 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Written by Brian Leahy

As an Algoma University student, Elise Ahenkorah was actively involved in the student union. In 2004, she was instrumental in initiating the first Black History Month celebration at Algoma U. Ahenkorah also established a Diversity Advisory Committee, made up of students, staff, faculty and board members supported by past Algoma University President, Dr. Celia Ross.

Ahenkorah graduated from Algoma University in 2008 with a BA in Law & Justice and has completed a post graduate certificate from Cornell University in Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Planning & Risk Mitigation and is currently completing her MBA at Aston University.

Ahenkorah has covered diverse ground in progressively senior roles in crisis communications, marketing, stakeholder engagement, strategic planning, and DE&I for public and private sector organizations in her career. She worked in some notable roles as a Business Development Coordinator for Halton Region, as a Communications Supervisor for a global oil and gas company, and as a Program Manager for the University of Calgary, leading and designing the first university female-entrepreneurship program and pitch competition for female-identifying students across all levels and faculties.

Ahenkorah has taken leadership roles as a manager, entrepreneur, speaker, and non-profit founder. She works as a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Manager for Sobeys Inc. – a large Canadian food retailer.

As an entrepreneur and Inclusion Strategist for inclusion FACTOR, she designs data-driven strategies to build

inclusive workplaces and communities for public and private sector-based clients across North America and the UK. Some of her clients include IBM, Saje Natural Wellness, Hootsuite, Calgary Police Commission, Alberta Theatre Projects, Calgary International Film Festival, University of Texas, City of Toronto, HRD International, University of Calgary, and the Law Society of Saskatchewan.

Over the years, Ahenkorah has shared her expertise with many community organizations, holding numerous board roles such as the Regional Director for Fierté Canada Pride, member of the United Nations Canada, Vice-President & Director of Communication for Calgary Pride, member of Alberta Hate Crimes Committee and Co-Founder of Innovate Change, a non-profit in Ghana, Africa.

Building on her past career experiences and as a prominent local community builder, Ahenkorah founded #shemeets four years ago and hasn't looked back since. Her goal was to build a supportive resource for women of colour (WOC) entrepreneurs across the country while

offering valuable experiences, mentorship, resources, and guidance.

Using tools such as skills training, workshops, and networking, #shemeets is bridging Canada's wealth gap and creating a community where WOC can build their ideas into reality. Thanks to Ahenkorah's dedication and steadfast leadership, the platform has grown from 25 to 7,500 members across Canada and continues to grow.

Ahenkorah's innovative DE&I strategies and community contributions have been recognized by the Black Business Professional Association (BBPA), International Association of Business Communicators, Ghanaian-Canadian Association of Canada, Canadian Centre for Diversity, the University of Calgary and the UN of Canada.

She has recently been named a 2021 L'Oréal Paris Canada Women of Worth Honouree for her DE&I subject matter expertise and her contributions in supporting the next generation of women of colour and racialized entrepreneurs.



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Your gift changes lives. Invest in an Algoma U student today!



You can change the life of a student. Your donation today will help a student who one day may change our community or change the world! Your donation will provide an Algoma U student with a learning experience that will be cherished for a lifetime. You can give a deserving Algoma U student the chance to reach his or her goals and dreams; to become the very best that he or she can be.

Our students are future teachers, business leaders, scientists, doctors, programmers and creators of new knowledge. The possibilities and opportunities are endless!

For more information on how you can invest in the life of an Algoma University student, please contact:

Giselle Chiarello, Senior Development Officer
 Algoma University, 1520 Queen Street East, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 2G4
 Phone: 705-949-2301, ext. 4125 E-mail: giselle.chiarello@algomau.ca

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- \$10 per month
- \$5 per month
- \$_____ per month

_____ I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A ONE-TIME DONATION

- Cheque enclosed for \$_____. *(Please make cheque payable to Algoma University. The fund being donated to can be listed in the memo line.)*
- Credit card payment in the amount of \$_____.
 VISA MasterCard

Name on Card: _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Cardholder's Signature: _____

Please direct my donation to:

- Algoma U Fund *(unrestricted gift)*
- Scholarship & Bursaries Program
- Emergency Bursary
- Arthur A. Wishart Library
- Varsity Sports
- Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre

- From time to time, Algoma U may publish the names of donors to the Annual Campaign. If you do not wish to have your name publicly listed as a donor, please check here.

ADOPT-A-THUNDERBIRD



Student-athletes work hard and make considerable sacrifices to maintain their academic standing while training and competing in their respective sport. Each year student-athletes log thousands of kilometres, and many long hours traveling to and from competitions across Ontario, Canada and the United States.

Our student-athletes have earned notable recognition at the regional, provincial, and national level and are champions in their sports. As a member of the Ontario University Athletics (OUA), our varsity teams compete in the preeminent university sport conference in Canada, giving our student-athletes the tremendous opportunity to excel and grow.

Our student-athletes compete in the following sports:

- Basketball
- Cross-country running
- Curling
- Nordic skiing
- Soccer
- Wrestling

You can help support our student-athletes by becoming an Adopt-A-Thunderbird supporter. Your tax deductible gift will be used in the following ways to enhance the Algoma U Thunderbirds Varsity Athletics Program: purchasing specialized equipment; assisting with travel expenses for tournaments and out-of-town competitions; providing opportunities for off-season training; and student-athlete achievement awards.

Algoma University's Adopt-A-Thunderbird program is building our future leaders, one athlete at a time.

For more information about supporting the Algoma University Thunderbird Varsity Athletics Program please contact: **Giselle Chiarello, Senior Development Officer**
Algoma University
1520 Queen Street East, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 2G4
Telephone 705-949-2301, ext 4125 E-mail giselle.chiarello@algonau.ca



ADOPT-A-THUNDERBIRD

Yes, I wish to support the Algoma U Adopt-A-Thunderbird program.

Donor Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Donation Amount:

- \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 Other \$ _____

Method of Giving:

Monthly Giving Program \$ _____ per month

- Preauthorized bank deduction (please attach a "VOID" cheque) deducted on the 15th of each month.
- I would like to become a monthly donor by debiting my credit card. (Please complete credit card information below.)

Name on the Card: _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Cardholder's Signature: _____

One-time Donation

- Cash/Cheque
- Credit Card (Please complete credit card information to the left.)
 Visa Master Card

I wish my gift to remain anonymous.

Please make your cheque payable to:
Algoma University
1520 Queen Street East, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 2G4

The fund being donated to can be listed in the memo line.



MUKQUA WAAKAA'IGAN: A world-class centre of excellence for cross-cultural education, healing, and reconciliation

Written by Jessica Ferlino



...continued on page 18

It is difficult to acknowledge the true history of Shingwauk Hall, which functioned as an Indian Residential School (IRS) until 1970, unbeknownst to most city residents who would have been appalled to know what atrocities took place locally.

When the facility doors closed, it ceased to be an IRS, but the trauma and pain of this dark period are embedded in the site, in the structure, and in the memories of the children who were forcibly removed from their families and communities to be stripped of their childhood, language, culture, and identity.

Since establishing itself on the Shingwauk site approximately forty years ago, Algoma University (formerly Algoma University College) has supported efforts to teach the truth of the past while addressing the intergenerational pain it caused. Mukqua Waakaa'igan is the next chapter in Algoma University's evolution as a leader in truth and reconciliation.

Mukqua Waakaa'igan will be a world-class centre dedicated to cultural excellence. It will be the first of its kind in the world, offering a safe and welcoming place to gather, teach, and learn in a new way, fulfilling Chief Shingwauk's vision for a cross-cultural teaching wigwam on the site.

The name Mukqua Waakaa'igan came to Algoma University in spirit

and in ceremony. Mukqua, the Anishinaabemowin word for bear, a medicine carrier or healer, can teach people to exist in harmony with each other and the environment. Waakaa'igan, the bear's den or lodge, will serve as a place where deep learning, understanding, and healing can take place.

Mukqua Waakaa'igan will embody the medicine wheel. Its design is guided by the Seven Grandfather Teachings, and designed thoughtfully so that the four directions, the four seasons, the four colours of humankind, and the four aspects of self can come together to promote transformation and synthesis.

The project was made possible by the efforts of the Children of Shingwauk Alumni Association (CSAA) and the award-winning, internationally recognized Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre (SRSC), who

have long championed the work of truth and reconciliation on campus.

The Government of Canada is investing \$7.1 million through the Community, Culture and Recreation Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada Plan, one of the largest single project contributions to date. The provincial government has committed \$5.9 million, and Algoma University will cover the remaining \$4.7 million of the estimated \$18 million project costs.

Over the next ten years, Mukqua Waakaa'igan is expected to generate \$36.4 million in added income for the local economy while offering a space where transformative teaching, learning, healing, and development can occur on a greater scale.

Past Chancellor, residential school survivor and Algoma University alumna Shirley Horn was pleased to be a part of the announcement, calling it, *"The next chapter of this young university's development, focusing on what truly makes us unique, and positioning us to make a huge difference for all people locally, nationally and internationally."*

The site's historical and cultural significance makes it the perfect location for what the Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, referred to as, *"Reconciliation,"* to take place. Baawating, *"the place of the rapids,"* has long been the gathering place for the Anishinaabe, and again it will serve as a place to come together as an extended community.

"Mukqua Waakaa'igan is part of the ongoing vision of the Children of Shingwauk Alumni Association to have a culturally appropriate space for the SRSC, archives and community gathering." explained Krista McCracken, SRSC's interim director. *"Work advocating for this type of space has been ongoing for decades and represent consistent work on the partnership between Algoma University and the CSAA."*

"Mukqua Waakaa'igan is designed for all people to be able to come together in a good way in pursuit of mino-dimaadziwin: the good life."



The institution is home to the largest residential school archives in the country, which includes the Aboriginal Healing Foundation Collection. Mukqua Waakaa’igan will have new, culturally appropriate storage spaces for the valuable collections, as well as space to grow its archival holdings and the capacity needed to engage the tens of thousands of people that visit each year.

“This new facility will allow us to host larger groups, gatherings, and a wider range of community organizations,” McCracken explained. *“It will also allow us to continue to expand programming around Reclaiming Shingwauk Hall and the archives itself. New technology and new space will continue to support the SRSC in being a national leader in truth and reconciliation.”*

The new space will showcase historical and contemporary displays, galleries and exhibitions, and will feature ceremonial and sacred spaces, gardens with traditional medicines, and culturally appropriate learning spaces. It is a place where physical, intellectual, emotional, and spiritual health and wellbeing are nurtured – where those with open hearts and minds can learn to grow together.

Further to its role in facilitating teaching, learning and healing, Mukqua Waakaa’igan is a recognition of all that was taken. To move forward, it is sometimes necessary to go back, learning from the past to discover a new, more holistic worldview, which is exactly what Algoma University

hopes to achieve through this facility.

“Mukqua Waakaa’igan will champion a new age of intercultural knowledge creation in the development of new pedagogies, as well as a new body of cross-cultural literature, resources and research for teaching, learning and healing all, including and valuing multiple world views,” explained Algoma University President and Vice-Chancellor, Asima Vezina. *“This is the start to a wonderful new chapter in Algoma’s history.*

“As a university we are positioned to support students and visitors to consider different and new ways of addressing global challenges facing our communities in society today – issues such as mental health and wellbeing, water protection, climate change, and environmental sustainability.”

Mukqua Waakaa’igan aligns with Algoma’s Special Mission, the original vision for the land and the future. It is an opportunity to do the work that needs to be done for humanity and the environment to exist as one, creating a path together.

This is the power and potential of Mukqua Waakaa’igan. With students from over fifty countries, the potential for intercultural teaching and learning at Algoma University will be greater than ever imagined. This is the way forward,

the beginning of a new dawn, biidaabin, built on mutual respect, wisdom, love, bravery, honesty, humility and truth.

Mukqua Waakaa’igan is designed, *“For all people to be able to come together in a good way in pursuit of mino-dimaadziwin: the good life,”* explained President Vezina. This is ultimately what Chief Shingwauk desired for his people when he proposed the idea of a teaching wigwam for cross-cultural teaching and learning 190 years ago.

This was the perspective of the late

Susie Jones, a Shingwauk Survivor who saw the importance of the work taking place. *“We need to keep moving forward with great care for each other, regardless of the obstacles and external interferences,”* said Jones. *“We need to put our differences aside. We have the opportunity to fulfill the vision of Chief Shingwauk. We must work together.”*

Mukqua Waakaa’igan is a living example of community in action, a celebration of the

efforts of those who have worked together to come this far, and will be a catalyst for future change. As former CSAA President Jay Jones so eloquently noted, *“The Survivors are the breath of that entity. They worked tirelessly for forty years to establish change and make sure that this never happens again.”*

“The next chapter of this young university’s development, focusing on what truly makes us unique, and positioning us to make a huge difference for all people locally, nationally and internationally.”



THE ROSE NOLAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP:

Recognizing resilience

Written by: Rick McGee

"I would like to congratulate Angela Trudeau Day for being Algoma University's first recipient of the Rose Nolan Memorial Scholarship. We are proud of Angela and look forward to seeing her, and all First Nation women, excel in their future endeavours" Ted Nolan

Exemplary scholastic accomplishments and strong commitments to community service made Angela Trudeau Day the ideal choice for a new Algoma University academic award presented earlier this year.

Recognition of her selection for the inaugural Rose Nolan Memorial Scholarship occurred during the University's 27th Student Awards Celebration last March. COVID-19 restrictions made the event virtual for 2021.

A \$100,000 donation to Algoma U from the Ted Nolan Foundation provides funds for the annual \$5,000 scholarship named after his mother. The former NHL player and coach announced the generous support for Algoma during the fifth annual Building Reconciliation Forum in October 2019. Algoma U, Shingwauk Kinooamaage Gamig and other partners hosted the high-profile gathering.

The Rose Nolan Memorial Scholarship helps First Nations women achieve their educational and training goals, while maintaining strong community involvements. Award applicants must be full-time students entering the third or fourth year of any Algoma U program, with a course load of at least 24 credits. Scholarship recipients must be a member of a First Nations Community in Canada and be a Canadian resident.

Trudeau Day is a proud Anishinaabe Ojibwe of the Sturgeon Clan and member of Serpent River First Nation with strong ties to Garden River First

Nation. She, and her husband Isadore Day, and their eight children are based in Serpent River First Nation east of Sault Ste. Marie.

Entering her final year at Algoma University this past September, and returning as the elected President of the Shingwauk Anishinaabe Students' Association, the high-achieving student will complete an honours degree in Political Science next spring. She will also leave the university with a Certificate in Business Administration.

Trudeau Day then plans to pursue a master's degree in Indigenous Governance at the University of Victoria.

A mother of 12 children, Rose Nolan has inspired many to persevere amid extraordinary hardships.

For Trudeau Day, they include being victimized by the Sixties Scoop, the heartbreaking, government-sanctioned practice of "scooping up" Indigenous children from their families and placing them in foster homes or for adoption.

In an essay required for the scholarship application process, Trudeau Day described being forced to address and overcome the trauma – including enduring abuse in foster care – she had experienced. The after-effects resulted in many personal struggles and educational difficulties elsewhere.

"One inherent outcome that came out of that healing process of making it back home, was giving back to my community by volunteering whenever I can for my



people, while I secure a level of higher learning that will better my life, my community and our nation," she noted.

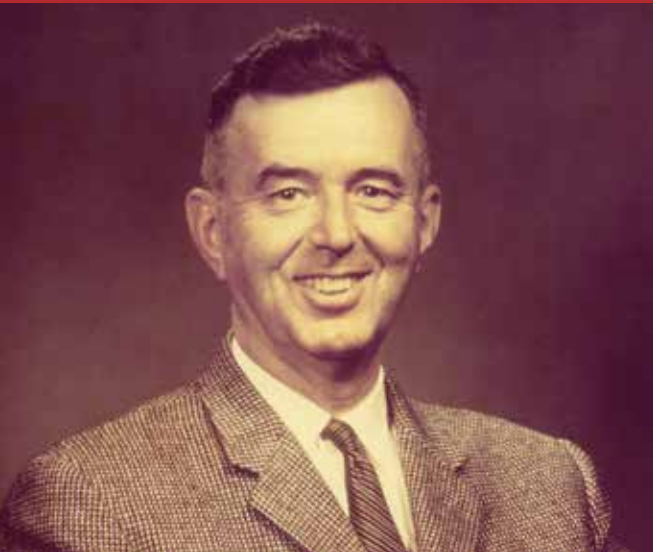
Two communities emerge as the focus of her efforts. *"I have continued my volunteer commitments through Shingwauk Anishinaabe Students Association (SASA) and at home in Serpent River First Nation (SRFN) while maintaining my studies and caring for my children and family,"* Trudeau Day said. *It is not an easy task, but I know that through my healing process from childhood trauma, I am resilient much like Rose Nolan herself."*

Award representative Ted Nolan commented: *"I would like to congratulate Angela Trudeau Day for being Algoma University's first recipient of the Rose Nolan Memorial Scholarship. We are proud of Angela and look forward to seeing her, and all First Nation women, excel in their future endeavours."*

Just as Rose Nolan set an example, Trudeau Day hopes to inspire others because *"despite the challenges and pressures of being a woman and creating both home and career, we can make our dreams come true."*

Pictured above: From left, Asima Vezina, Algoma University President and Vice-Chancellor; former Director, Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre, Elizabeth Edgar-Webkamigad; and Ted Nolan.

Inset photo: Angela Trudeau Day



A “MAN OF FIRSTS” – THE LEGACY OF

Dr. Cameron

Written by: Rick McGee

“Our father was a unique individual. He was known as a great listener and was always helpful when people approached him for advice.”

Peter Cameron

A very generous financial donation to Algoma University will create scholarships that honour a highly respected Sault Ste. Marie civic leader who worked tirelessly to advance and reshape the city during the 1950s, '60s and '70s.

As a distinguished entomologist, Dr. J. M. (Bain) Cameron became the first Director of the Insect Pathology Research Institute in the Sault. Despite the position's many demands and responsibilities, he devoted countless volunteer hours to many other aspects of community service before his death in January 1975.

Raised by parents who emphasized the importance of education, Dr. Cameron served on two local school boards. Then, in 1958, he and a small group of like-minded advocates formed a citizens committee to address the community's lack of post-secondary facilities. Eventually, those efforts would make university undergraduate opportunities readily accessible in Sault Ste. Marie.

The original committee evolved into the unincorporated Algoma Junior College Association in 1960 and became the Algoma College Association in 1964. The following year brought more progress with provincial approval of Algoma University College (commonly known as AUC) as an affiliate of Laurentian University, based in Sudbury.

Years of research, planning, and lobbying ultimately paid off when the recently sanctioned AUC welcomed 77 students

for its inaugural fall semester classes in 1967.

In January 1974, the Algoma College Association's Board of Directors created a Board of Governors to oversee AUC. The group's choice of Dr. Cameron as Board Chair reflected strong peer endorsement of his leadership abilities and confidence in his assumption of a larger leadership role.

Truly a “man of firsts,” Dr. Cameron was also the inaugural Chair of the Sault Ste. Marie Conservation Authority upon its formation in 1963.

Dr. Cameron and his wife Evelyn raised five children – Alan, Nancy, Peter, Robert and Richard – who recently initiated the Dr. J. MacBain Cameron Memorial Fund to commemorate their father's involvement in the early days of Algoma University.

The first contribution to the endowment will support five \$1,000 scholarships, with the first presentations to be made at the 28th Annual Algoma U Student Awards event in 2022. Recipients will be District of Algoma residents enrolled as full-time students in the second, third, and fourth year of any program at Algoma's Sault Campus. Applicants will require a minimum average of 70 per cent in their previous year of study.

At least one award will be presented each year to a student who is Métis, First Nations or Inuit. Doing so will honour Algoma's Special Mission to

“cultivate cross-cultural learning between Aboriginal communities and other communities” and support its partnership with the Shingwauk Education Trust and Shingwauk Kinooomaage Gamig.

“Dad very much wanted to contribute to his community,” Peter recalled. “We all felt we were very fortunate. Our father was a unique individual. He was known as a great listener and was always helpful when people approached him for advice.” The Camerons intend that the fund will grow over time for the benefit of even more Algoma students.

“The scholarships that will be provided through the Dr. J. MacBain Cameron Memorial Fund will help carry on the legacy of a remarkable individual who was integral in establishing a university presence in our community, bringing with it the many social and economic benefits that we experience today. I would like to extend a note of thanks on behalf of the entire Algoma University community to the Cameron family for their generous support,” notes Shelley Schell, current Chair of the Algoma University Board of Governors. “I would like to extend a note of thanks on behalf of the entire Algoma University community to the Cameron family for their generous support.”

Pictured above: Dr. J. M. (Bain) Cameron



ALGOMA U DELIVERING ON ITS COMMITMENT TO EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Written by Marc Capancioni

Issues related to equity, diversity and inclusion have captured an ever-increasing share of society's attention in recent years. To better address issues of inequity and social justice, universities across Canada have begun to shift administrative practices, educational delivery and other "traditional" ways of operating to foster equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI).

Given its history, Algoma University is in a unique position to cultivate an atmosphere that embraces EDI. The institution is up for the challenge as it positions itself as a leader at the forefront of this movement within the Canadian post-secondary landscape.

The school's Sault Ste. Marie campus is located on the site

of the former Shingwauk Indian Residential School. This history provides a distinct opportunity to foster wisdom and cooperation to uncover the truth of the residential school experience while advancing reconciliation and healing.

"Algoma U offers a unique and historically-rich setting for cross-cultural learning, where Anishinaabe, domestic, and international students and faculty representing more than 50 countries from around the world learn from and with each other in a spirit of friendship and respect," said Dr. Vivian Jimenez Estrada, Associate Professor and Academic Lead for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

Algoma U has experienced unprecedented growth recently. Its

three campuses in Sault Ste. Marie, Timmins, and Brampton now boast nearly 3,000 students and more than 400 employees. As the institution flourishes, its commitment to EDI is only growing stronger.

“As we grow in size and diversity, Algoma U continues to strive to foster a welcoming, safe and inclusive, learning, teaching, and working environment where all students, faculty and staff are represented and respected,” said Dr. Jimenez Estrada, who’s also Chair of the university’s Department of Sociology.

On this front, a number of initiatives were undertaken. For example, numerous Anishinaabe events and programming have been delivered and developed. Also, as part of Algoma U’s goal of becoming a national leader in supporting Canada’s reconciliation movement, the institution hosted the 2019 Universities Canada National Building Reconciliation Forum.

Along with these specific initiatives, the university continues to transform its overall operations and delivery method. The ultimate goal is aimed at undoing systemic and institutional discrimination with public transparency and accountability to help the organization achieve institutional excellence.

“Algoma U has shifted its focus on creating education and awareness events alone to change the systems and barriers that prevent equity-deserving groups from attaining success,” said Dr. Jimenez Estrada. *“It’s important to acknowledge that racism and discrimination exist and affect underrepresented groups – including women, Indigenous, Black and other racialized persons, persons with disabilities, and LGBTQIP2SA+ persons – in disproportionate, distinct and complex ways.”*

To help coordinate activities and initiatives, the university recently established a new Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Manager position. The purpose of this role is to address systemic barriers

in policies and structures, enhance and deliver Algoma U’s EDI action plan, facilitate education and awareness training, and champion employment and hiring metrics for underrepresented groups.

“The main goal is to ensure that EDI values are intentionally embedded across Algoma U’s three campuses to fulfill the university’s commitment to undoing systemic and institutional discrimination and to be publicly transparent and accountable,” said Jane Omollo, who commenced her duties in the Manager’s position in September 2020.

Looking back, although a concerted effort to cultivate an atmosphere of EDI began at the university many years ago, it gained considerable steam in 2016 with the creation of the Algoma U Diversity & Equity Committee. This working group, established by the Dean’s Office, is diverse and representative of underrepresented groups among the school’s student body and employees.

The committee recommended several best practices to address equity gaps, such as the delivery of educational awareness and training to raise understanding about discrimination, oppression,

colonization and their effects. This fall, an EDI climate survey has been launched that will help with the collection of EDI-related data to support and enact strategies to address shortcomings, along with a communications plan to share results with stakeholders and the general public.

With its EDI action plan, Algoma University is well positioned to continue to be a leader in EDI in the post-secondary sector. To learn more about EDI initiatives at Algoma U, including events such as Pride Month and Indigenous History Month, visit www.algomau.ca/about and click the “Equity Diversity & Inclusion” link.

“As we grow in size and diversity, Algoma U continues to strive to foster a welcoming, safe and inclusive, learning, teaching, and working environment where all students, faculty and staff are represented and respected.”





ALGOMA'S SAULT CAMPUS PREPARES FOR CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT

Written by Rick McGee

Big, forward-looking advances — including record enrolment levels — have redefined Algoma University and raised its profile in recent years.

But don't expect the momentum for major changes to let up anytime soon. In fact, the pace will only quicken during the months and years ahead as a refreshed and welcoming Sault Ste. Marie Campus acquires a new look and feel.

Some of that future is outlined in a document approved by the Board of Governors last September.

The Algoma University 2020 Campus Master Plan: Shingwauk Site, Sault Ste. Marie provides a conceptual guide to infrastructure development over the next five to 10 years.

Capital projects and other envisioned improvements align closely with Algoma's strategic and academic plans.

Extensive consultations with Anishinaabe partners and a host of other internal and external constituencies were critical to the campus plan's formulation. The IBI Group from Toronto collaborated with David Ellis Architects of Sault

Ste. Marie to produce the end result.

Algoma's Sault Ste. Marie campus is situated on a portion of land known as the Shingwauk Site. The name honours the legendary Chief Shingwauk. The visionary local leader from Garden River wanted Anishinaabe people to be educated in the ways of the European people who came to the territory, while also teaching the newcomers how to live in harmony with the Anishinaabe and all of creation. Algoma embraces Shingwauk's vision through its Special Mission's emphasis

on cross-cultural learning and teaching.

Campus upgrades began late last year mere weeks after the master plan's official sanctioning.

The Algoma University Students' Association (AUSU) allocated \$1.7 million to modernize the almost 20-year-old Speakeasy student space, including the seating area in the adjoining cafeteria. The newly renovated space opened its doors to rave reviews when students returned to campus this fall.

The popular gathering spot, which includes a student-operated bar benefitting from a new sound system, serves as a lounge, as well as a venue for pubs, performances and special events.

Most of the AUSU-approved commitment was raised through a designated ancillary fee students paid over an extended period.

"I was thrilled to see AUSU's leadership and commitment to improving the overall student experience," shared President and Vice-Chancellor Asima



SSM CAMPUS MASTER PLAN CONSULTATION SESSIONS

Vezina. “This was a student-driven project and they have done an absolutely outstanding job reimagining the Speakeasy to become something that meets the needs of today’s student.”

Shortly after Speakeasy alterations began, financial support arrived for another much-anticipated project.

Through FedNor, the federal government announced \$1.98 million to design, construct and equip a state-of-the-art lab for the School of Computer Science and Technology (SCST). Outcomes will include more computer science programming, one of Algoma’s most popular undergraduate programs, and research opportunities for students and faculty. Of special note are two innovation and collaboration zones to foster product development and idea incubation.

The new quarters in the North Wing will help the university attract the more than 600 new students needed to reach its goal of 3,000 full-time equivalents by 2023. Two thousand registrants are expected in Sault Ste. Marie by then, with Algoma’s Brampton and Timmins campuses accommodating another 1,000 learners.

Long-term growth projections forecast a Sault Ste. Marie campus of 3,000 students a decade from now.

Room for the SCST expansion emerged from the temporary relocation of the AUSU offices to Spirit Village while the campus bookstore was relocated to the Arthur A. Wishart Library. A ribbon-cutting for the new SCST facilities is being planned for later in the Fall term.

Recently completed work also includes accessibility improvements through recent washroom and elevator modifications.

Other campus development projects noted in the Campus Master Plan will strengthen

SPEAKEASY (CURRENT)



RENDERING



Algoma’s leadership role and visibility in responding to the Truth & Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action. In late May, another significant step forward in these efforts was made when the federal and provincial governments made a \$13-million funding commitment to support Mukqua Waakaa’igan, which would see the East Wing transformed into a world-class cross-cultural centre of excellence.

The proposed rebuild would see the creation of a cross-cultural research and educational centre focused on learning, teaching and healing at the local, national and provincial levels. The facility would include increased and culturally appropriate space for the Shingwauk Residential School Centre, a research and educational project of the university and the Children of Shingwauk Alumni Association.

Meanwhile, ongoing renovations to Algoma’s Shingwauk Auditorium include further progress on the Reclaiming Shingwauk Hall initiative. The project recalls the building’s time as a residential school with displays commemorating the lived

experience of its then-young students. In telling the truth of what happened, Survivors are now controlling their own legacy while reclaiming a space that was created to remove their identity.

Longer-term initiatives will continue to reshape and alter Algoma’s Sault Campus for years to come. Further expansion will support the introduction of graduate studies in business and economics, computer science and biology.

By the end of the decade, Algoma’s Sault Ste. Marie campus could include up to four new academic and research buildings, along with new student services and student life structures.

Also likely are a new home to the School of Business and Economics, additions to the Science Building and the George Leach Centre, new residences and a new maintenance building.

A tiered parking structure could be built to replace spots lost as structures arise towards the centre of the current existing main parking lot.

Proposed enhancements would not enlarge Algoma’s current footprint.

The multi-year development plan considers all aspects of the campus, not buildings alone. So, Algoma U will one day feature academic courtyards and outdoor learning spaces, including an amphitheatre built into a natural slope.

With emphasis on environmental stewardship and respect for the land, sustainable designs will reduce energy use, generate water use efficiencies and, perhaps, feature green surface parking.

An increasingly active transportation-oriented campus will be pedestrian- and cycling-friendly, and afford greater access to public transit.

Commitments to maximum green spaces will lead to a more treed campus, including upgraded forest trails on the campus’s east side.

Dialogue with other Shingwauk Site partners, including Shingwauk Kinooomaage Gamig and the Algoma District School Board, could eventually result in ready access to the St. Marys River immediately to the south and a new roadway link with Wellington Street on the north side of the Shingwauk Site.



Algoma

UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF
COMPUTER SCIENCE
& TECHNOLOGY

ALGOMA U GRADS POWERING THE DIGITAL WORLD

Written by Marc Capancioni

With society becoming more and more digital, Algoma U is helping to power this global trend. Each year, its School of Computer Science & Technology (SCST) teaches and supports the next generation of programmers, game designers and tech industry leaders.

"The computer science field is one of the fastest-growing and highest-paying career paths in the world," said Dr. Simon Xu, Director of the university's SCST. *"We need to cultivate enough graduates to have the necessary skills to design, develop, maintain and apply the software and hardware we all use."*

Graduates have been hired in recent years to fill roles at large private and public sector organizations across the country and around the world, including Natural Resources Canada, Algoma Steel, the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation (OLG), Workiva, and numerous post-secondary institutions. Some of the

most common jobs are cyber security engineer, software developer, and systems administrator.

Seeing its computer science grads achieve success is nothing new for Algoma U. The university has been at the forefront of the field for more than 50 years; however, the days of old would hardly be recognizable now.

Computer science courses were first offered by the university in 1968, in an era when punch-cards were still used for data processing. Much has changed.

Major technological breakthroughs now happen on a regular basis. Industries and educational institutions need to adapt to keep up with these changes.

Algoma U's latest growth and development initiatives for the SCST are a prime example. New computer labs and research spaces, with state-of-the-art equipment and technology, were recently completed on Algoma's Sault Ste. Marie

campus, just in time for this fall's return to in-person learning.

This expansion was made possible with \$1.98 million in funding from FedNor, the federal government's economic development initiative for Northern Ontario. With this investment in new facilities, Algoma U is better able to provide learning and research opportunities for the students and professors in its computer science program.

"The School of Computer Science & Technology is currently in a period of growth, with the addition of new faculty, the development of online programs and anticipated graduate-level programming, and increased collaboration with local industry," said Dr. Xu. *"Our vision is to continue to provide high-quality education to enhance our impact and reputation nationally and internationally while promoting excellence in innovative research and collaboration with industry and academic partners."*

Algoma U also delivers the computer science program at its Brampton campus,

"The university has invested in full-time faculty members and now offers an accelerated computer science degree at our Brampton campus."

located in the north-west quadrant of the GTA. Major growth and facility expansion has taken place recently at Algoma's campus in the heart of downtown Brampton.

"We're focused on improving facilities and have expanded and updated the computer science areas for students and faculty," said Craig Fowler, Algoma U's Vice-President of Growth, Innovation & External Relations. *"The university has invested in full-time faculty members and now offers an accelerated computer science degree at our Brampton campus."*

In total, 340 students were enrolled in computer science at both campus locations for the 2020-2021 academic year. Algoma U plans on doubling this

number in the near future. New program initiatives, including a recently launched dual-credential program offered in partnership with Northern College in Timmins, will help lead this growth.

With its rich history dating back five decades, coupled with recent expansion and development initiatives, the institution has garnered a reputation as having one of the most advanced computer games technology specializations at the university level. This is why students flock into the program year after year.

Take, for instance, Peizhi Yan. Following the completion of his Bachelor's degree in Computer Science in 2018, Yan went on to complete a master's degree in computer science at Lakehead U and is now working

on his PhD at the University of British Columbia.

"At Algoma U, I got a lot of help from the supportive faculty," said Yan. *"They not only cared about my study but also cultivated my ability to do research. The small-sized classes gave me more chances to communicate with the instructors, which was crucial in helping me to lay a good foundation for my research life."*

As we emerge from the pandemic, continued innovation and advancement in the computer science and technology fields will be at the forefront of how we conduct business and serve the needs of society; Algoma U's SCST is clearly ready to assist and guide the next generation of tech industry leaders and innovators.





PHOTO BY ALEXA LECIAIR

ALGOMA U ALUM PURSUES EXCITING FILM AND TELEVISION CAREER

Written by Megan Parlowe

Lights, camera, action! This is a line we certainly don't hear that often in Sault Ste. Marie, but for Trish Rainone, it's made its way into her daily vernacular as her career in film and television continues to soar.

Rainone grew up in Sault Ste. Marie and is a proud member of the Algoma U alumni family. She has always been passionate about film and television, and when the time came, she began her post-secondary adventure pursuing film studies in Ottawa. Though she loved the program, Rainone missed home and her family, realizing that she didn't flourish in Carleton University's large classroom setting.

Craving smaller class sizes and a more intimate experience, Rainone moved back home to pursue her undergraduate education locally. Though Algoma didn't offer a film studies option, she found another passion and graduated in 2009 with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Her time at Algoma meant a lot to her, and she holds many of her experiences near to her heart.

"I have really fond memories of the smaller classroom sizes and the approachable professors at Algoma U,"

she said. *"I wasn't intimidated, as the classes were intimate and I knew my classmates. I learned to work hard on every project, and my advice for any current students and grads is to always apply yourself."*

Prior to her career in film, and while continuing her studies, Rainone worked closely with children with autism and gained insight and skills that proved valuable in later endeavours. She

"I learned to work hard on every project, and my advice for any current students and grads is to always apply yourself."

completed a diploma in Autism and Behavioural Sciences at Confederation College in Thunder Bay then moved to Ottawa and gained

employment with the Ottawa Carleton District School Board. Now, as a screenwriter and an actor, she studies characters, stories and situations. Her university experience helped shape how she approaches these situations, and she attributes her degree to

helping her achieve her acting goals.

"I feel that the degree in psychology set me up for success," Rainone said. *"My program involved a lot of essay-writing and presentations. In the end, I ended up where I wanted to be and the presentations helped me to come out of my shell. I've learned in my time at Algoma and now in my career that time-management and communication skills are key in any business."*

Earlier this year, Rainone produced and acted in a film for CBC entitled, *"A Christmas Letter"*, starring Flashpoint star David Lipper, *"Whose Line is it Anyway"* comedian Colin Mochrie and *"Saving Hope's"* Glenda Bragzanda. The film was shot in Sault Ste. Marie this past May with local crew and actors. Rainone produced the film alongside Lipper and co-star Rebeka Herron. Both have relocated to Sault Ste. Marie. As a team, they plan to collaborate on more Sault-based projects in the future.

In addition to this exciting endeavour, Rainone is also playing a lead role in the Bell Fibe TV prison series *"Pink Is In"*, and is hopeful that her character *"Top Dog"* will continue to evolve throughout the planned continued seasons.

"I feel that the skills you learn in university go even further than the content you're studying," she said. *"Operating 180 Sisterhood & the Sault Film Festival, I'm working all hours of the day and evening. I remember my psychology professor telling us that even if we didn't choose to go into the exact field we were studying, that the skills we were gaining in the program would help us in any field. He was correct."*



FIBE TV - 'PINK IS IN' PROMO



JOANNE ROBERTSON, MISKO ANUNGO KWE
(RED STAR WOMAN)

JOANNE ROBERTSON, MISKO ANUNGO KWE (Red Star Woman): Named 2020–2021 Alumni Achievement Award Winner

Written by Brian Leahy

Joanne Robertson, Misko Anungo Kwe (*Red Star Woman*), winner of the 2020-2021 Alumni Achievement Award, is a member of Atikameksheng Anishnawbek, and is of the Bald Eagle clan. She was adopted as a baby and raised by her French/German parents on a farm in Essex County in Southern Ontario. Robertson was reunited with her Anishinaabe family while in her twenties.

Robertson graduated in 2010 from Algoma University and Shingwauk Kinooomaage Gamig, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree and a certificate in Interdisciplinary Aboriginal Learning.

As a student, Robertson started the “*Empty Glass for Water*” campaign, created in response to the drinking water crisis in First Nation communities. She rallied support for the campaign by producing a short film titled “*Glass Action*”, and by urging people to get involved to address the issue. As part of that work she arranged for the recording of the “*Nibi Song*” by Dorene Waubanequay Day.

Robertson would go on to edit the documentary, titled “*Paquataskimik is Home*”, as part of the Paquataskimik Project created by the NORDIK Institute. The film documents traditional Indigenous life along the Albany River.

A talented Anishinaabe author and illustrator, Robertson has been awarded numerous awards for her children’s book, “*The Water Walker*”.

These awards include:

- Indigenous Voices Awards (2019), Finalist, Most Significant Work of Prose in English by an Emerging Indigenous Writer,
- Periodical Marketers of Canada and First Nation Communities, “Indigenous Literature Award” (2018)
- Ontario Library Association, Best Bets in Junior Non-Fiction category (2018),
- Listed on the Quill & Quire Books of the Year List, Bookseller’s Kidlit, selected by A Different Booklist (2017)
- American Indians in Children’s Literature, Best Books List (2017)

“*The Water Walker*” follows the journey of Nokomis (Grandmother) Biidaasigeba, Josephine-ba Mandamin, an Elder and environmental activist known for her work advocating for the preservation of water and the promotion of its healing powers. Robertson assisted Josephine-ba Mandamin with a number of her water walks from the four oceans to Lake Superior, including Josephine-ba’s final walk from Lake Superior to the Atlantic. She introduced GPS tracking to the water walks in 2011, and continues to track the water vessel water walkers in both Canada and the US.



ALUMNI UPDATES



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Follow us to stay connected to campus and other Alumni!



KAZI FAISAL ATAHAR

Kazi Faisal Atahar (BBA Marketing '17), originally from Bangladesh, recently gained his permanent residency in Canada this past March. Kazi is currently working in Management for Loblaw's Inc. in Calgary, Alberta.

Francis Muli (BBA '14) has been working as a Senior Accountant for WealthSimple in Toronto.



FRANCIS MULI



LARA STILIN

Lara Stilin (BBA Accounting '11) recently became the youngest Chief Financial Officer for Your Neighbourhood Credit Union in Sault Ste. Marie.

Yuka Yamada (BBA '13) is currently working as the Manager, Brampton Operations at Algoma University's Brampton Campus. This past September, Yuka welcomed the arrival of her second child, Kai, to her family.



YUKA YAMADA



JENNIFER VACHON

Jennifer Vachon (BA CDEV '17) has been serving the Timmins community since 2017 as the Executive Director of the Anti-Hunger Coalition, a local food charity that works to increase access to healthy and affordable food.

Eva Dabutch (HBSW '17) went on to complete her Masters of Social Work at the University of Toronto. Eva is currently working at Nogdawindamin as the Clinical Intake Case Management Supervisor in the Children's Mental Health Department and is the owner of Trailblazing Beads in Sault Ste. Marie.



EVA DABUTCH



CÉLINE PERRON

Céline Perron (BA Law & Justice '16) is currently working for Scotiabank as a Fraud Investigator and published her first book earlier this year, titled *The Next Right Thing*.

Abdulaziz Abu shaheen (BBA '18) currently works for GO STATION as an Operations Manager in Saudi Arabia.



ABDULAZIZ ABU SHAHEEN



TIIA MURPHY

Tiia Murphy (BSc Computer Science '01) is currently working as a Senior Manager, Engineering Program Management for Adobe in Ottawa.

Thank you for sharing your career updates and personal milestones with us at alumni@algomau.ca. Please keep your news coming and be sure to update your contact information so we can let you know about special benefits and events exclusive to alumni. Visit algomau.ca/alumni/update-your-information





Creating a legacy by investing in futures

Did you know:

In May 2006 the Federal government removed the obligation to pay capital gains tax on donations of marketable securities to charities. Gifts of marketable securities (stocks, mutual funds) receive the benefit of a charitable tax receipt for the fair market value of the security without the requirement to pay tax on the capital gain. The elimination of the capital gains tax creates many opportunities and advantages for donations of stocks rather than cash, whether for a gift today or as part of an estate plan.

Planning is such a major part of our lives. We plan for our daily activities, upcoming events in our personal or professional lives and unexpected situations. Planning is both prudent and responsible.

Planning is also a thoughtful and important way of approaching our charitable giving. Planning gifts to charity through a gift in your will or through life insurance ensures that the causes and organizations that you have deemed important during your lifetime continue to benefit from your support in perpetuity. There may also be tax benefits and implications that are important considerations for your family and heirs, both now and in the future.

There are many options available to you which can help to meet your philanthropic goals today and possibly provide you and your estate considerable tax savings in the future. Such options include gifts through:

- Bequests
- Life Insurance
- RRSP/RRIF Funds
- Securities
- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Charitable Remainder Trusts

Your commitment to excellence in education can continue with a gift that is planned today to prepare for the future. Please consider discussing with your financial advisors today, how you can plan to maintain your legacy and commitment to Algoma University.

For information on how you can leave your legacy, and possibly receive considerable tax benefits, please complete the following form and return it to:

Giselle Chiarello
Senior Development Officer
Algoma University
1520 Queen Street East
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 2G4
Phone: 705-949-2301, Ext. 4125
Email: giselle.chiarello@algomau.ca



Please provide me with information on making a planned gift to Algoma University through:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bequests | <input type="checkbox"/> Securities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Insurance | <input type="checkbox"/> Charitable Gift Annuities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RRSP/RRIF Funds | <input type="checkbox"/> Charitable Remainder Trusts |

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss Dr.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

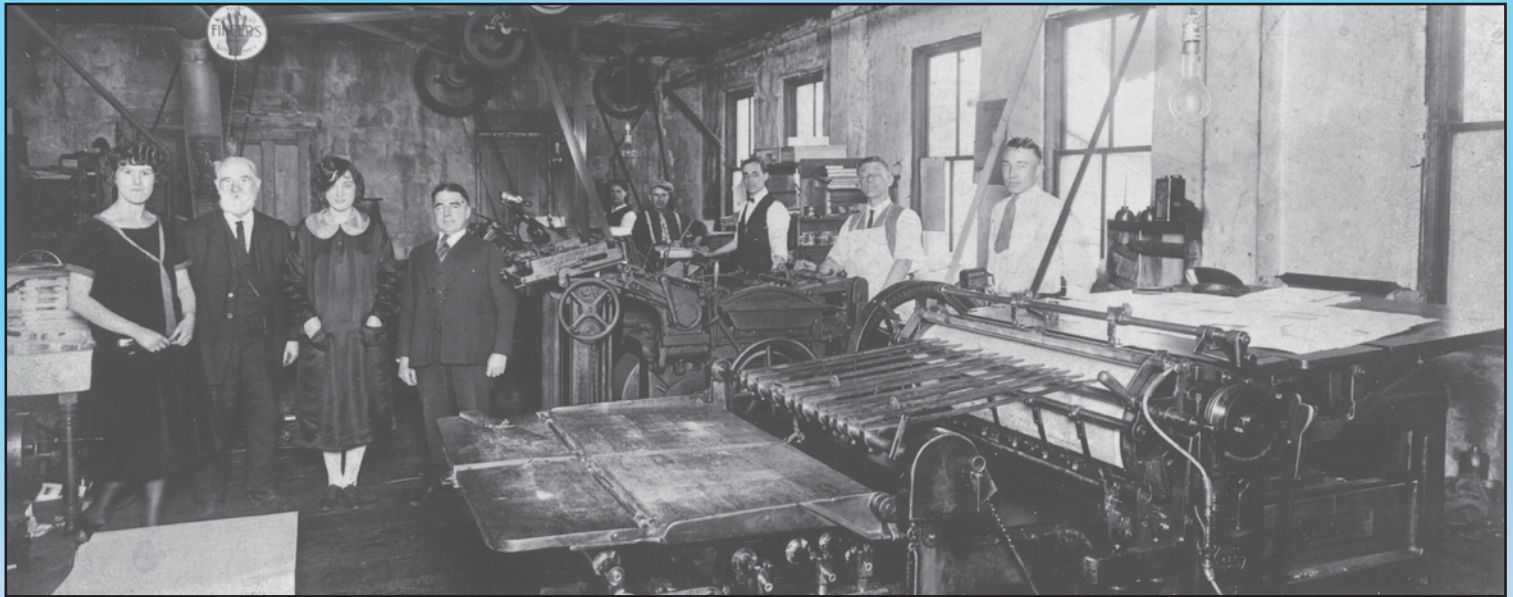
Tel # (Home) _____ Tel # (Work) _____

E-Mail: _____

I have already included Algoma University in my estate planning and/or will.

Algoma University encourages you to explore the options that best suit your personal philanthropic goals. The information provided will outline the benefits of making a planned gift to Algoma University. We strongly recommend that you consult with your financial and/or legal advisor prior to making your gift to determine specific tax advantages and requirements.

Algoma
UNIVERSITY



The History of Cliffe Printing Inc.

CHARLES CLIFFE came to Sault Ste. Marie from British Columbia in 1902. He purchased a weekly newspaper, the Algoma Pioneer, which he converted to a daily paper. The paper closed down six years later, after a fire destroyed the plant located on the west side of Pim Street. After the fire he moved to March Street and then, in 1926, to larger quarters and the firm's present location at 118 Spring Street. Charles Cliffe also edited the Steelton News, and had a china shop and bookstore at 506 Queen Street East. He operated a newspaper until approximately 1930, when his two sons, Herbert and Osborne Cliffe, joined the business and started a commercial printing plant.

After Charles' death in 1931, the two brothers continued their partnership until 1938, when Osborne moved to Chicago to set up his own printing shop. Herb remained with the business until his death in 1974, then his son Charlie took over. Charlie Cliffe, who entered the family business in 1953, sold the company to five employees - Charlie Carpenter, Larry Vincent, Al Marshall, Don Martell and Andy Inch in 1979, with himself remaining principal shareholder.

In 1987, ANDY INCH bought out his partners and became sole owner and president of Cliffe Printing Inc. Andy, with the help of his son Adam, still runs the company to this date.

In 1988-89, Cliffe Printing expanded into the Advertising and Marketing field with the start-up of Advantage Design and Advertising later to be known as Latitude Creative Group. This entailed the hiring of an additional designer and a marketing manager and installation of new computers, programs and imaging devices.

1992 saw the jump into in-house full-colour work and expanded bindery capabilities with the purchase of a 2-colour Heidelberg and automated binder equipment, making Cliffe not only a force in Northern Ontario, but also across Ontario and into the United States.

Early 2000 saw another large step for Cliffe Printing as a brand new four-colour press and imaging device was purchased. These acquisitions now made Cliffe Printing a leader in the printing industry not only in Ontario, but in North America. A market spreading across the United States and Canada, and into Europe.

In June 2001, Cliffe Printing had been located at 118 Spring Street for 75 years and expanded its offices across the street to 117 Spring Street, the former Salvation Army building. Built in 1912, the additional building helped us to continue in the theme of tradition and heritage, and for us, stood for solid practices and values.

In 2012, Cliffe Printing became a Partner with Canada Post. This was especially important to all the printer's Mail Marketing customers as they saved money and time partaking of sales and new services provided through the Expert Partnership. Cliffe's proudly received the United Way

Campaign Achievement Awards "Chair's Award of Merit", and a Red Cross Citation for 10 Years Sponsorship of their annual Feast or Famine Campaign that same year. Cliffe Printing was also recognized in media for the 2012 Sault Business in the Century-plus Club, achieving 110 years in business.

Cliffe Printing gratefully accepted the Sault Star Reader's Choice Award in 2015 as the winner of Best Printing Graphics and Sign Shop in Sault Ste. Marie.

In 2016, after considering the advancement in technology, equipment and special requirements we combined our offices into our original 1926 location at 118 Spring Street.

We look back and take pride in the accomplishments of the company since 1902. We recognize the unwavering commitment to facilitate the most efficient and modern equipment available to us, and are grateful to fulfill a promise to our valued clients. The promise to offer the absolute best print services at fair prices.

Today, we recognize that 120 years of patronage from our valued clientele and new customers has brought us here, and we thank you.



Thank you for 120 Years in Print!

118 Spring Street, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 3A1
705-945-8215 Toll Free: 1-888-433-2139
 print@cliffeprinting.ca www.cliffeprinting.ca
 Open Monday to Friday 8:00am - 4:00pm

Photo: Cliffe Printing Press Room - 1923, Cliffe Printing Est. 1902.
 L; Hannah McDonald, Charles Cliffe, Mary Langstaff, Herbert Cliffe.
 R (f-b); Mike Devoe, Johnny Durente, Fred Roberts, Walter "Polly" Cliffe, George Benson