

For Immediate Release
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Heritage College Science Student receives COPA Scholarship

Second-year Heritage College Science student Melissa Richardson of Wakefield is the proud recipient of the top amount awarded by the Neil Armstrong Scholarship Fund of the Canadian Owners and Pilots Association (COPA). The \$7,000 scholarship will go a long way to help cover the cost of her formal flight training at the Ottawa Flying Club as she works to earn her private pilot's license.

The qualifications Melissa demonstrated in her application for this prestigious scholarship included: a keen interest in flying and general aviation in Canada, academic skills demonstrated by her scholastic record, a proven ability to be a self-starter with willingness to earn her way, participation and demonstrated contributions to her community and school, and leadership attributes. Founder of the Heritage College Science Activity Committee, Melissa has participated in the University of Waterloo's Gauss Mathematics Contest for the past 5 years, and recently received a certificate of distinction for placing in the top 25% among 5,100 participants in last year's Canadian Open Mathematics Challenge. In her application essay, Melissa wrote,

My ultimate goal is to be a Canadian astronaut and the first steps to obtaining this goal are to receive my pilot's license along with an Aerospace Engineering degree. From my time spent at Heritage College in the Science program I have taken courses in Philosophy, English, Biology, Chemistry, and my favourites, Physics and Math. Each of these courses and my personal experiences have provided me with great insight into what I would like my future career path to include: airplanes, math and physics.

For more information about becoming a student of the Heritage College Science program, or about any of the many other programs offered by West Quebec's only English cégep, visit the College website at www.cegep-heritage.qc.ca.

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