

Cégep Heritage College receives Cégep Vert du Québec certification.

Gatineau, August 30, 2012 – Cégep Heritage College, the Anglophone CEGEP in the Outaouais, was awarded the *Cégep Vert du Québec* Level 1 certification on June 15, 2012, for the implementation of Year 1 of its *Heritage Handprints* sustainable development program.



The *Cégep Vert du Québec* certification is an environmental certification program that was started by and for youth by ENvironnement JEUnesse in 2004 (<http://enjeu.qc.ca/>). Its mission: to awaken the development of an environmental consciousness and critical thinking in young adults so they can take citizen actions to ensure a viable future.

The *Cégep vert du Québec* Program was developed to support the implementation of sustainable management in CEGEPs across the province. To date, there are 48 collegial institutions that have embraced the cause, and that are at different levels of certification.

There are four levels of certification: Levels 1, 2 and 3, and the Excellence level – each level with specific actions to be implemented. Heritage has made efforts over the past few years to become more environmentally conscious and to reduce its environmental footprint. One such «eco-friendly» project that has been implemented is its *Energy Efficiency project* that will reduce the College's emission of greenhouse gases by 111 tones annually – that's like removing 50 cars from the road, and will reduce energy consumption by 25%.

In order to obtain Level 1 certification, Heritage created an environmental committee, developed an environmental policy, held training sessions on environmental issues, and also held sensitization activities including the development of a carpooling system and the creation of a parking zone reserved for carpooling vehicles, the installation of water bottle replenishment stations, and the participation in « Défi sans auto » – Heritage won 1st place in the large regional enterprises category, and was awarded the Bronze medal at the provincial level in this contest.

About Cégep Heritage College: Cégep Heritage College is one of 48 CEGEPs (Collèges d'Enseignement Général et Professionnel) in the province of Quebec, the only English CEGEP in Western Quebec. The College offers five pre-university programs, and eight career programs.

Quality education, small classes, a friendly atmosphere, and dynamic extra-curricular and social activities make Cégep Heritage College the perfect place to study and meet new friends. The College's modern facilities feature a gymnasium, fitness centre, dance studio, comprehensive library, and 156-seat auditorium. Our spacious campus grounds include a large soccer field, basketball court, beach volleyball courts, biking and hiking paths.