



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

The Alliance for the cause of higher education in the Outaouais unveils its 2012-2013 priorities!

Gatineau, Friday November 30th 2012 – The *Alliance pour la cause de l'enseignement supérieur en Outaouais* – ACESO (Alliance for the cause of higher education in the Outaouais), a committee of the *Table Education Outaouais*, unveiled its priority projects for 2012-2013. Four ambassadors from the health, culture, tourism and economic development milieux proudly presented the priorities of *La Cause*.

Thus, Dr. Gilles Aubé, member of *Santé Outaouais 2020*, announced the priorities for the health milieu: a DEC in *Technologie de radiodiagnostic* for Cégep de l'Outaouais and the development of programs for the *Université du Québec en Outaouais* (UQO) including health, nutrition, kinesiology, physical education and pharmacy.

Municipal councilor Stefan Psenak, President of the City of Gatineau's *Commission des arts, de la culture, des lettres et du patrimoine*, announced priority projects for the cultural milieu: an arts pavilion for UQO and for the Gatineau *Conservatoire de Musique*; and a music program (vocal music profile / popular music and jazz profile) for *College préuniversitaire Nouvelles Frontières* and for the Gatineau *Conservatoire de Musique*.

Marlène Thonnard, Coordinator of the *Pôle d'excellence en récréotourisme de l'Outaouais*, representing the Tourism milieu, unveiled the priority projects for this domain: additional infrastructure for its DEC program in Hotel Management and a DEC program in Restaurant Management for Cégep Heritage College; and a *Centre collégial de transfert technologique (CCTT) en Intelligence territoriale* for Cégep de l'Outaouais.

Finally, Michel Plouffe, DE-CLD Gatineau Director General, presented evidence of UQO underfunding, one of the priorities of the ACESO, stemming from the results of the study commissioned by the CRCO disclosed last spring.

"In its Declaration issued in 2011, the ACESO published its priority projects for the next 10 years. Our 7 2012-2013 priorities are now essential projects that absolutely must be started within the year. The development of the Outaouais region depends on it! Each member and ambassador of *La Cause* is committed to bringing these projects to fruition." said ACESO president Frédéric Poulin, Cégep de l'Outaouais interim Director General.

The cause of higher education in the Outaouais is one of the four priorities of the *Table Éducation Outaouais*. The three other priorities are improving student retention, the valorisation of vocational and technical training and the valorisation of the teaching profession.

-30-

For information or an interview : Pascal Laplante, Communications Coordinator, Cégep de l'Outaouais
819.772.4012, poste 2319 - pascal.laplante@cegepoutaouais.qc.ca