



NEWS RELEASE

Private Career Colleges Can Help Meet Ontario's Increasing Demand for Post-Secondary Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - February 4, 2010

BRANTFORD - Ontario's more than 600 registered career colleges are well-positioned to help ease overwhelming demand at the province's post secondary institutions.

Numbers released today show that public colleges were flooded with 100,495 applications for fall classes – 14 per cent more than a year ago. Applications from mature students jumped by more than 20 per cent while applications from high school seniors increased by 8.6 per cent.

“Private career colleges have the capacity to support additional high school graduates and retrain workers with a minimal cost to the government,” said Paul Kitchin, Executive Director of the Ontario Association of Career Colleges (OACC). “With locations in more than 70 communities across Ontario, career colleges are well-positioned to help.”

Career colleges offer hundreds of diploma and certificate programs, in fields like health care, business, information technology, culinary arts, the trades, esthetics, social services and law. Over 38,000 students graduate every year from Ontario's career colleges. On average, students can earn a diploma from a career college in less than 12 months. Many career colleges offer start dates as often as once per month.

“Career colleges offer a warm and welcoming learning environment for all students – whether they are fresh out of high school or returning to the classroom after years in the workplace,” said OACC President Don Thibert.

To find a career college near you, visit www.ontariocollegesearch.ca. For more information on the Ontario Association of Career Colleges, please visit www.oacc.ca.

-30-

Media Contacts

Paul Kitchin

OACC Executive Director

519-752-2124 ext. 103

paulkitchin@oacc.on.ca

Krista Seggewiss

OACC Media Communications Coordinator

519-752-2124 ext. 115, cell 519-536-3093

kristas@oacc.on.ca

ABOUT

The Ontario Association of Career Colleges is a non-profit organization with more than 230 members. OACC exists to create a stronger voice and better sector quality. OACC offers a Financial Aid Office in partnership with the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities' Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) office.

Ontario Association of Career Colleges

155 Lynden Rd, Unit 2, P.O. Box 340, Brantford, Ontario N3T 5N3

*Telephone: (519) 752-2124 *Fax: (519) 752-3649* Web: www.oacc.ca

ESTABLISHED TO SERVE ONTARIO PRIVATE CAREER COLLEGES AND THEIR STUDENTS