

September 2, 2009

NorQuest College President & CEO Announces Upcoming Retirement

EDMONTON – Wendy Kinsella, Chair of the NorQuest College Board of Governors and Dr. Wayne Shillington, President & CEO, today announced Dr. Shillington's retirement from his position as President & CEO at the conclusion of his current contract at the end of June 2010. Shillington has served as NorQuest's President & CEO since October 1998.

In making the announcement Kinsella stated, "The Board of Governors would like to sincerely thank Dr. Shillington for his dedication and commitment to NorQuest College over the past 11 years. During his time of leadership the College has faced many challenges and has evolved into one of Alberta's leading post-secondary institutions now providing high quality career credentials and foundational education to over 10,000 full and part-time post-secondary students annually."

Said Shillington, "After more than a decade shaping and building NorQuest and working with the Board and staff to build a platform from which the College can launch its future, I believe NorQuest is poised to become Alberta's finest Community College.

June of 2010 is the right time to pass the baton and let the team, with new leadership and new energy, implement the College's first 10-year Strategic Plan."

"My time at NorQuest has been exciting and very fulfilling. We have achieved some truly remarkable successes," Shillington explained. "From a small local centre providing primarily academic upgrading and English as a second language training, we have built a comprehensive college reaching learners not only across Alberta, but indeed across Canada."

"We have achieved a reputation for innovation and excellence in teaching and programming and are seen as experts in education for those with unique needs, including students of Aboriginal ancestry, those from diverse cultural backgrounds and those with disabilities, Shillington added. And we are now the largest of Alberta's 11 designated comprehensive community colleges, offering a growing range of career programs."

Concluded Kinsella, "NorQuest Board of Governors will launch a national search for a President & CEO with the skills and abilities to lead NorQuest toward a bold future that further establishes our reputation as one of the leading post-secondary institutions in Alberta."

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NorQuest College, with campuses in Edmonton, Wetaskiwin and Stony Plain, community learning centres in seven other Alberta communities and providing online distance learning in over 200 Canadian communities, delivers post-secondary diploma and certificate programs in a variety of health, human services, business and industry careers as well as numerous foundational education programs.

NorQuest serves over 10,000 full and part-time students each year and has been designated by the Alberta Government as the Community College responsible for the Edmonton region, ranging from Camrose to Jasper and Drayton Valley to Whitecourt.

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