



## *News Release*

November 9, 2010

### **HSBC Bank Canada creates \$75,000 endowment fund for Aboriginal students at NorQuest College**

**EDMONTON** – NorQuest College announced today a donation by HSBC Bank Canada of \$75,000 to create an endowment fund for Aboriginal students at the College. The gift establishes the HSBC Bank Canada Aboriginal Award, which will be presented annually to one first-year Aboriginal student enrolled in a career program at NorQuest College. Approximately 8.8 per cent of the student population at NorQuest College is Aboriginal.

Starting in December 2010 the HSBC Bank Canada Aboriginal Award will provide eligible students attending NorQuest College with financial assistance in the form of an undergraduate scholarship of \$3,750. Priority will be given to full-time students enrolled in NorQuest's career programs. The support from HSBC Bank Canada will help Aboriginal students who are interested in pursuing a business, health or human service career at NorQuest. "Improving access to post-secondary education is a priority for us as a community college," said NorQuest College President and CEO Dr. Jodi L. Abbott. "Finances are often a barrier for many students. The endowment fund will help to ensure these students take those important steps toward achieving their educational and career goals."

"HSBC Bank Canada is very pleased to support students at NorQuest College by establishing the HSBC Bank Canada Aboriginal Award," said Robin Penfold, Senior Vice President, Commercial Banking, HSBC Bank Canada. "HSBC believes strongly in helping to create greater access to education, which is why we fund bursaries and scholarships at post-secondary institutions across Canada. We are especially pleased that this award will help Aboriginal students achieve their educational goals"

#### **About NorQuest College**

NorQuest College is the Edmonton region's community college and the largest community college in Alberta. NorQuest serves 11,000 learners each year at campuses in Edmonton, Wetaskiwin and Stony Plain, at seven community learning sites and online in over 200 Canadian communities. NorQuest is the regional steward for the Edmonton region – from Camrose to Jasper and Drayton Valley to Whitecourt – ensuring access to post-secondary education. NorQuest offers diplomas and certificates in health, human services, business and industry career programs. The College has expertise in adult literacy, academic upgrading, English as a Second Language, Aboriginal education, and learner supports for students with disabilities. For more information, visit [www.norquest.ca](http://www.norquest.ca).

#### **About HSBC Bank Canada**

HSBC Bank Canada, a subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc, has more than 260 offices, including over 140 bank branches, and is the leading international bank in Canada. With around 8,000 offices in 87 countries and territories and assets of US\$2,418 billion at 30 June 2010, the HSBC Group is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organizations.

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