

Friday, February 2, 2024

Ministry of Colleges and Universities
438 University Avenue, 5th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2A5

RE: Support for Conestoga College

The Honourable Jill Dunlop,

I am writing to you as the Mayor of the City of Guelph to highlight the significant role Conestoga College plays in our community.

Conestoga College's campus plays a crucial role in developing a skilled workforce tailored to the needs of Guelph's industries and businesses. Through its programs in technology, health sciences and skilled trades, Conestoga equips students with the knowledge and skills required to excel in various sectors of the local economy.

As one of the fastest growing communities in Ontario, Conestoga's investments in our community have been instrumental in bolstering economic development and cultural vibrancy. The College recently announced a state-of-the-art \$90-million campus in the heart of our downtown. Along with its existing campus, this new facility will provide residents with increased access to higher education and vocational training opportunities.

Conestoga College also engages with our local businesses, fostering partnerships and collaboration that drive innovation and economic development. These partnerships often lead to joint research projects, internships, co-op placements and eventually, full-time employment opportunities, which benefit both students and the local community.

As the provincial government begins to allocate international students across post-secondary institutions, it is important to understand the contributions and investments that Conestoga has made in the communities it serves. We encourage the Ministry to approach the international student cap with fairness and integrity, considering its potential impacts on the broader community.

Sincerely,



Mayor Cam Guthrie,
City of Guelph



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