



**Lou Rinaldi, M.P.P.**  
Northumberland-Quinte West

**Ontario Marks 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of College System**  
*Province Making Commemorative Investment to Improve the Student Experience at  
Loyalist College*

April 20, 2017

In celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ontario’s College System, the province declared April 3 to 9, 2017 as Colleges Week and is making a new investment in each of Ontario’s 24 publicly assisted colleges to enhance the student experience.

Ontario is providing \$1,412,200.00 to help Loyalist College deliver high-quality education that will give students the skills they need for the jobs of tomorrow.

The funding will be used by Loyalist College to invest in new technology, equipment and learning spaces that will enhance the student experience.

Investing in postsecondary infrastructure is part of our plan to create jobs, grow our economy and help people in their everyday lives.

**QUOTES**

“This investment will provide college students at Loyalist College with state-of-the-art materials including specialized software for teaching, new lab and shop equipment and technology to modernize existing classrooms and labs, that will ensure they have the right skills for a knowledge and technology-driven economy.”

— **Lou Rinaldi, MPP for Northumberland – Quinte West**

“Our government commemorates the growth and evolution of Ontario’s college system, launched by Bill Davis, 50 years ago and the tremendous contribution they have made to our province’s economic growth and vitality. This \$50 million investment will provide our students with access to leading-edge equipment and labs that will ensure they have the right skills for a knowledge and technology-driven economy.”

— **Deb Matthews, Deputy Premier, Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development and Minister Responsible for Digital Government**

.../2

“Loyalist is delighted to receive this funding from the province. It will enable us to acquire lab equipment, and develop innovative classroom space with technology and upgraded wireless capacity to provide enhanced educational experiences for our students. We will also be able to purchase equipment to advance the College’s interest in Applied Research, particularly in the Supercritical Carbon Dioxide Extraction Laboratory. It is a wonderful way for the province to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the college system, and we want to thank the Premier and the Minister for this important investment.”— *Ann Marie Vaughan, President, Loyalist College*

## QUICK FACTS

- Ontario is investing \$48 million in capital funding for new equipment and learning resources and \$2 million in the [Northern Colleges Collaboration](#) – a total of \$50 million to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- In September 2016, Colleges Ontario launched the [Start of Something Amazing](#), a 15-month celebration of the college system’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- In 2015-16, about 84 per cent of Ontario college graduates found work within six months of graduating.
- About 220,000 students are enrolled full time at Ontario’s 24 publicly assisted colleges.

## LEARN MORE

- [Loyalist College](#)
- [Ontario Colleges at 50: The Start of Something Amazing](#)
- [Ontario’s colleges](#)

---

### Contact info

Lou Rinaldi, M.P.P.  
Northumberland - Quinte West  
1-800-263-3980