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MOHAWK
COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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September 5, 2006

His Worship Mayor Di Ianni
Office of the Mayor
The City of Hamilton
71 Main Street West
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5

Dear Mayor Di Ianni:

As co-convenor of the Hamilton Roundtable on Poverty Reduction, I wanted to personally share with you Mohawk's plans to help make a North Hamilton neighborhood a better place to raise a child.

Mohawk is proud to announce a formal partnership with the Robert Land Community Association and the YMCA Hamilton/Burlington. During the 2006-07 academic year, Mohawk will work alongside the Association, YMCA and Keith Neighborhood residents to open a much-needed community centre in the heart of Ward 3 for children, youth, single mothers and seniors.

The children and families in the Keith Neighborhood deserve better so Mohawk is putting our best and brightest to work on their behalf. We will bring to this grassroots community-building project Mohawk's greatest strength – the talents and time of our students, staff, alumni and retirees. We will put our heads, hands and hearts to work on three initiatives:

1. Renovating former classrooms through a series of "Mohawk Makeovers" that will leverage our strengths in skilled trades and apprentice training.
2. Developing and delivering educational and recreational programs in partnership with the YMCA, drawing on our Schools of Human Services and Health Sciences as well as Continuing Education.
3. Helping to raise the community centre's profile within the neighborhood, among donors and across the city through helping to create and implement advertising, marketing, public relations and communications campaigns.

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Our partnership with the Robert Land Community Association will create a wealth of hands-on learning, leadership and citizenship opportunities for everyone involved. In particular, we hope to give our 10,000 students, 3,000 apprentices and 42,000 continuing education registrants a one-of-kind experience that leads to a lifetime of community involvement and civic leadership.

I want to personally congratulate you for bringing together leaders from the private, public and non-profit sectors to collaboratively find solutions for reducing and preventing poverty among children and youth. In support of your vision to make Hamilton the best place to raise a child, Mohawk will be sharing our vision of inspiring learning, leadership and citizenship with the Robert Land Community Association and all the residents of a North Hamilton neighborhood.

Sincerely,



MaryLynn West-Moynes
President