

Smiths Falls Literacy and Basic Skills site closing due to decreased demand for service

- Learners will remain supported by alternate resources -

SMITHS FALLS - (April 26, 2022) - Due to the continued decrease in demand in Lanark County for its services, the Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS)/Academic Upgrading Services at Algonquin College's Smiths Falls site will wind down operations over the next six months. The Smiths Falls LBS site has been operating since approximately 1998, and since 2017 the number of learners has declined significantly.

A portion of the funding from the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development for the Smiths Falls site has been re-directed to the Adult Learning & Training Centre (ALTC), also located in Smiths Falls. This will ensure continued support to learners in Lanark County. Algonquin College will work closely with Lanark county literacy and basic skills providers and other community partners to ensure a seamless transition for learners.

LBS is a program that helps adults in Ontario to develop and apply communication, numeracy, interpersonal and digital skills to achieve their goals. The LBS program serves learners who have goals to successfully transition to employment, postsecondary, apprenticeship, secondary school, and increased independence. The program includes learners who may have a range of barriers to learning.

The last day academic upgrading services will be offered at the Smiths Falls site located at 52 Abbott Street North, Unit #2 will be August 31, 2022.

For more information, please contact Alana Anderson, Chair of Algonquin College's Academic Access Centre (andersa3@algonquincollege.com).