

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Province gives Laurier \$5 million for campus renewal projects

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WATERLOO — The Ontario government is giving Wilfrid Laurier University \$5 million for capital improvements involving energy efficiency, classroom modernization and campus safety.

The funding was announced today by Kitchener-Conestoga MPP Leeanna Pendergast on behalf of the Honorable John Milloy, Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities and MPP for Kitchener Centre.

The money is part of the \$200 million announced in the recent provincial budget for campus maintenance and renewal at Ontario universities in 2007-2008.

“There is a pressing need for investments in the post-secondary sector that enable us to renew our institutions and provide our students with a quality learning environment,” said Laurier president Dr. Max Blouw. “Minister Milloy and his colleagues in government clearly understand this need, and we thank them for it.”

Laurier will use its portion of the funding for a variety of projects related to energy efficiency, classroom modernization and campus safety. Some specific projects include:

- ∞ Replacement of 93 windows in a heritage building on Laurier’s Brantford campus.
- ∞ Replacing the HVAC system in two buildings.
- ∞ A computerized utility monitoring system to track, and help reduce, energy consumption.
- ∞ A pilot project to install energy-saving outdoor LED lighting.
- ∞ Additional outdoor lighting and security poles to improve campus safety.
- ∞ Accessibility improvements.

“Universities have a great deal of physical infrastructure to maintain,” said Jim Butler, Laurier’s vice-president, finance and administration. “This investment will help us improve Laurier’s learning and research environment while making our campuses safer and more energy efficient.”