



Office of the City Clerk  
Bureau du greffe municipal

February 20, 2026

Claude Brulé - President and CEO of Algonquin College  
The Honourable Nolan Quinn - Minister of Colleges and Universities

By electronic submission

**Re: Algonquin College program cuts**

Please be advised that Ottawa City Council, at its meeting of February 11, 2026, considered and approved the following motion:

**MOTION**

Moved by / Motion de: Councillor L. Johnson  
Seconded by / Appuyée par: Councillor R. King

***That the Rules of Procedure be suspended to consider the following motion so that information may be submitted in advance of the next meeting of the Algonquin College Board of Directors.***

**WHEREAS** Ontario's community colleges and universities, including Algonquin College and Collège La Cité, are under increasing financial pressure because of decisions to reduce the number of foreign student visas and to freeze tuition fees; and

**WHEREAS** Algonquin College has recently announced its plans to cut 30 programs due to financial pressures; and

**WHEREAS** several of the programs proposed to be cut have frequently supplied future employees to the City of Ottawa, including recreation staff, museum staff, paralegals, paramedics, bus and City fleet mechanics, communications professionals, and more; and

**WHEREAS** programs like culinary arts, landscaping, media arts, computer programming, business, and many others that are proposed to be cut provide practical training to graduates that go on to staff Ottawa businesses across many sectors, which helps attract new investments to our city; and

**WHEREAS Collège La Cité is facing many of the same challenges as Algonquin;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council directs staff to undertake an internal scan of potential impacts to the future attraction and recruitment of qualified employees, and what City services may be affected as a result; and**

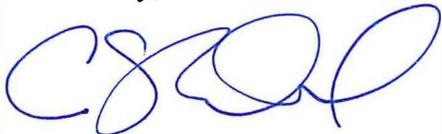
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council directs staff to conduct a consultation with members of the Mayor's Economic Council to collect their feedback and concerns with the proposed elimination of programs that support their economic sectors; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk compile the results of the internal scan and the consultation with members of the Mayor's Economic Council, and that it be sent before February 20 to the President of Algonquin College and its board of directors, as well as the Minister of Colleges and Universities, so they have a fulsome understanding of the impacts of the cuts in our community, in advance of the board's consideration of this matter on February 23.**

As referenced above, please find attached the internal scan of potential impacts to the future attraction and recruitment of qualified employees, and feedback received further to consultation with members of the Mayor's Economic Council.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,



Caitlin Salter MacDonald  
City Clerk

Attachments:

1. Internal Organizational Scan – Potential Algonquin College program cuts & City of Ottawa impacts
2. Letter from the Ottawa Film Office
3. Letter from the Ottawa Coalition of Business Improvement Areas (OCOBIA)
4. Joint Letter from the Ottawa Music Industry Coalition (OMIC), Ottawa Festivals, the Canadian Live Music Association, and Optimal Show Experience.
5. Letter from Sarah Chown, the Metropolitan Brasserie

cc. Mayor Mark Sutcliffe, Councillor Laine Johnson, Councillor Rawlson King