



Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board
Commission d'évaluation de la qualité de l'éducation postsecondaire

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June 22nd, 2011

The Honourable John Milloy
Minister, Training, Colleges and Universities
900 Bay Street
3rd floor, Mowat Block
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

Dear Minister:

Re: Seneca College of Applied Arts and Technology's application for consent to offer a Bachelor of Commerce (Business Management)

Pursuant to section 5(1) of the *Post-secondary Education Choice and Excellence Act, 2000* (the Act), Seneca College applied for your consent to offer a Bachelor of Commerce (Business Management).

In accordance with section 5.2 of the Act, the application was referred on December 7th, 2010 to the Board for its review and recommendation. The Board reviewed the application in accordance with standards and benchmarks identified in its *Handbook for Ontario Colleges, 2010*, and gave final consideration to the application on June 20th, 2011.

Based on:

- the applicant's submission;
- the findings of the Quality Assessment Panels appointed by the Board to assess this program against the Board's standards and benchmarks for an Honours Baccalaureate degree;
- the applicant's response to the panel reports;
- any additional materials provided by the applicant to the Board;
- any commitments made by the applicant during the review process; and
- the Board's assessment of the information;

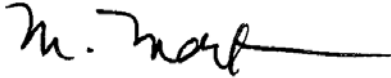
the Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board finds that the proposed program meets the Board's standards, and recommends that you grant consent to Seneca College to offer a Bachelor of Commerce (Business Management) at its Newnham Campus, 1750 Finch Avenue East, Toronto, and its Markham Campus, 8 The Seneca Way, Markham.

Should you decide to grant consent, the Board also recommends that Seneca be permitted to

- amend its liberal arts offerings without the necessity of seeking amendments to its consents; and
- use distance education delivery within existing programs in alignment with the e-learning plans submitted for review. Should Seneca wish to expand the use of distance education beyond the commitments made in its e-learning plans, the Board recommends that a condition of consent be that Seneca be required to submit its revised plans to the Minister for review by the Board.

The Board's recommendations are predicated on an assumption and the Minister's requirement that consent holders will meet the terms and conditions of consent which require them to honour all commitments made in the application and during the course of the review. Should these commitments, which include expanding the space and library resources available to students, not be honoured by Seneca College, the program will not meet the Board's standards. The risks resulting from inadequate program quality are considerable and can range from individual risks to students who do not achieve the education they expect to the potential harm to the reputation of Ontario degrees. Given their importance, the Board recommends that you seek assurance from Seneca that commitments made during the course of the review are honoured.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Morton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Maureen Morton,
Chair

cc Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board
Deborah Newman, Deputy Minister, MTCU
Marie-Lison Fougère, Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy and Programs
Division, MTCU
Nancy Naylor, Assistant Deputy Minister, Postsecondary Education Division, MTCU
Martin Hicks, Director, Postsecondary Accountability Branch, MTCU