

# Centennial College

## Centennial College pivots quickly to the new reality

When the Ontario government declared a state of emergency on March 17, closing many establishments as COVID-19 cases started to rise dramatically, Centennial College was already implementing a plan to pivot to online learning.

After suspending classes for one week, Centennial faculty worked collaboratively and rapidly to shift their curriculum online, a boon to domestic and international students, especially.

Knowing that vulnerable students don't always have up-to-date technology, the college moved quickly to order 5,000 Chromebooks from a U.S. supplier so that the laptops could be loaned to learners in need. Despite extraordinary demand for the computers from schools and institutions across North America, Centennial delivered the devices within weeks to help ensure its students could resume their studies virtually.

The Centennial COVID-19 Relief Bursary was established to support students who are struggling with urgent financial needs during the pandemic. It provides both domestic and international students with emergency funds to pay for essentials such as food and housing. It also pays for internet services to facilitate online learning for those students who don't have access at home.

To further assist with financial need, Centennial refunded a pro-rated amount of its ancillary fees, such as locker rental and parking costs – services that were closed or inaccessible due to the pandemic. Almost \$2 million in funding and fees were returned to students' pockets in the winter semester, with subsequent semester fees adjusted lower to reflect the new service model.

No doubt the pandemic will continue to present challenges. We carefully consider every decision to support the academic, career, social and personal development of our learners, believing that financial hardship should not hinder access to education. Our curriculum, teaching and co-curricular opportunities demonstrate that we value the diverse profiles of our students and strive to create ideal conditions for their learning, development and satisfaction.

Learn more at: [centennialcollege.ca](http://centennialcollege.ca)

**CENTENNIAL COLLEGE**

**WE HELP THEM BUILD TOWARDS THE CAREERS THEY WANT**

With over 300 programs that offer a mix of hands-on and online learning opportunities, your students are on their way to a successful career.

[centennialcollege.ca](http://centennialcollege.ca) See where experience takes you.