

# INTERNAL NEWS RELEASE



CÉGEP  
VANIER COLLEGE

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## *Fall 2007 Snapshot of Vanier College Students*

Every year when a new semester begins, we wonder who our new students are. Given the rich diversity of students who attend Vanier College, this is an intriguing question. Diane Tessier of the Registrar's Office shares some pertinent facts on students coming to Vanier this fall.

Doubtless everyone has taken note of our increased enrollment this semester. According to Diane this is a province-wide phenomenon and is expected to continue next year as well. But who are the Vanier students this year and how many are there? Diane informs us that First Applications to the College increased by 5% this year, from 5,677 at this time last year, to 5,952 this year. She also indicates that "Many more students applied earlier in round one than last year, which made processing much easier for the Admissions Office. As could be expected, there were also higher rates of acceptance and confirmation." She adds that the College's enrollment is very healthy and we are close to maximum capacity. Currently there are 6,152 students including part timers, *commandites* and *fin de DEC* students.

Where are the students headed? Enrollments in the two-year pre-university programs have increased, especially in the Social Science, Commerce, and Communication programs. In the three-year technology programs, enrollments are stable although some, such as the Natural Science and Business Administration programs, have increased.

How old are Vanier students? "Most students enter Cegep at the age of 17," Diane tells us, "but we have a few exceptions. This semester we have 20 students who have just turned 16 years of age. Our very youngest sixteen-year old is enrolled in the Science Plus Program. At the other end of the spectrum, we have a few baby boomers, and our most mature student is 61 years of age." Overall, the average age of students, including both new and returning students, is 19.

Who are the Vanier students? 47% are male and 53% are female. The increasing number of female students is a widespread North American trend. In terms of mother tongue, Vanier has a very diverse student population, and approximately 60 different languages are spoken on campus. This year, 46% of students report English, and 14% of students report French as their mother tongue; while 40% report their mother tongue as *other*.

"Many of our students are educated in French," indicates Diane, "and we have noticed an increase in the use of French on campus as well as an increase in the number of students qualifying for more advanced French courses."



Where do Vanier students come from? Only 12% of our students reside in Saint-Laurent. The rest commute from Laval, the West Island, the South Shore and other areas in Montreal. Close to 400 come from points further north or south of the island. This is the breakdown of where our students call home. Montreal Island: 2830 (46%); Laval: 1250 (20%); Saint-Laurent: 679 (12%); West Island: 676 (11%); South Shore: 335 (5%); and points further north or south: 382 (6%).

Diane adds, “Most of our students are Canadian or landed immigrants. However, each semester we enroll about 70 foreign students from many countries around the world. No one country stands out in this regard and the trend is similar to previous years.” Foreign students pay from \$4,000 to \$6,000 per semester of study, depending on their program.

Finally, Diane tells us that “As well, there are 31 non-resident students this semester, which represents a fairly significant increase over previous years and is likely due to increased recruiting of athletes from other provinces.” Non-resident students pay approximately \$900 per semester of study in addition to regular registration fees.

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