

INTERNAL NEWS RELEASE



CÉGEP
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Vanier College Students raise over \$1000 In Walk for HIV/AIDS

Last Sunday, September 16, 2007, over 40 Vanier College students joined faculty member, Melodie Hicks from the Nursing Department, for the Farha Foundation's 15th annual walk to raise money and awareness for HIV/AIDS. The walk was a huge success, and so far Vanier students have raised over \$1000. This is the 12th year that Melodie walks and the fifth she that organizes Vanier students to participate in the HIV/AIDS Walk; and it's the first time The Learning Centre pitches in to recruit a few students from their area to join in as well.

There was already a crowd at the corner of Peel and René Lévesque, when Vanier students arrived early Sunday, with family and friends in tow. They returned their pledge forms, put-on Vanier T-shirts that were donated by the Vanier College bookstore and set out under the Vanier College banner.

Students were treated to choirs, a drumming band and snacks along the 7km walk. As well, Nursing students had the opportunity to gather information for their up-coming project on local resources available for people living with HIV/AIDS. "I was proud to be walking with such a mature, caring and diverse group of Vanier students," comments Melodie Hicks. "They took turns carrying our Vanier banner, which is heavy after a while. They helped out those who had brought children and really came together as a team."

"Many students expressed to me the pleasure they experienced from participating in the event, which I think was a surprise to them. We raised close to a thousand dollars, but for me the real success was to get so many students out on a Sunday morning doing something for others and not because they were receiving credit or marks for it."

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