

## NEWS BULLETIN

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Monday, June 03, 2002  
For Immediate Release

### **Needs of Disabled Students Addressed: New Equipment Unveiled at UWinnipeg**

WINNIPEG — Students with visual and learning disabilities will benefit from new adaptive equipment and programs to be unveiled at UWinnipeg's Nathan Micay Disability Resource Centre today. **Please join us for a reception and demonstration to be held at the University of Winnipeg (515 Portage Avenue, Graham Hall Mezzanine) at 3:30 p.m.**

Students with disabilities will demonstrate how the new adaptive resources will change the way they study. For students with visual disabilities, using complex text resources such as the Internet can be a challenge. A new program called WindowEyes can make the task less daunting. WindowEyes, a screen reader that provides a voice output, translates text into sound. How can you tell which words are links to other pages? The tone of voice changes, allowing the user to recognize a link and make the selection, if desired.

Students with learning disabilities will benefit from the Kurzweil 3000, a computer program which scans text – from textbooks, newspapers, or other sources – and translates the material into a voice output. The student can then follow the text visually as the program reads the material aloud.

Minister of Advanced Education Diane McGifford and Minister of Family Services and Housing Tim Sale will be on hand to celebrate as the new equipment is unveiled.

The University offers special thanks to the Council on Post-Secondary Education for capital funds granted towards this project.

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For further information or to arrange an interview, please contact Katherine Unruh at 204.786.9872.