



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

UWinnipeg's Wii Chiiwaakanak Learning Centre Confronts "Graduation Gap" Through Homework Club

WINNIPEG—Giving students a helping hand with homework can contribute to their success at school—and in life. In response to a growing demand by community children, youth, and their parents, The University of Winnipeg's Wii Chiiwaakanak Learning Centre has expanded its Homework Club this Fall to five days per week—giving special focus to science and math homework help.

"The Homework Club allows kids from our community to receive tutoring they require to meet their academic challenges head on and succeed in school," said Christine Boyes, RBC Community Learning Commons Coordinator at UWinnipeg's Wii Chiiwaakanak Learning Centre, 509-511 Ellice Avenue.

"This is an important investment that the University is making in our community. By sharing our resources with community children and youth, we hope to address some of the barriers to graduation and to post-secondary education," said University of Winnipeg President Lloyd Axworthy. "According to several recent reports, more than half of our city's Aboriginal youth do not graduate from high school. The Homework Club is one of several new University/Community partnerships we believe will begin to close the 'graduation gap' and support inner city students so they can achieve their full academic potential."

Children and young teens receive hands-on homework help by UWinnipeg Faculty of Education and Faculty of Science student mentors—and a free, healthy snack. The Homework Club schedule is as follows:

Tuesdays and Thursdays
4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Science & Math homework help
Faculty of Science student volunteers

Wednesdays and Fridays
4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Saturdays
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
General studies homework help
Faculty of Education student volunteers

The University of Winnipeg's Wii Chiiwaakanak Learning Centre bridges the digital divide and provides Aboriginal and inner-city students and community members with access to computers, programming, and other resources at no charge. Opened in November 2005, the Centre serves hundreds of community members every week, bringing the University and its neighbours together.

Located in the heart of downtown, The University of Winnipeg is a compact, diverse, multicultural academic community committed to access and excellence. Home to more than 9,200 full- and part-time students, UWinnipeg has been ranked by our graduates in the Top Ten of all Canadian universities when asked about their "Entire Educational Experience" (Maclean's Graduate Survey, June 2006). The Globe & Mail 2005 Report Card gives The University of Winnipeg an overall 'A' grade in the areas of teaching quality, class sizes, faculty-student interaction, and the availability of faculty outside classroom hours. Find out why. Visit www.uwinnipeg.ca

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