



Bob Chiarelli
Mayor / Maire



November 4th 2004

On behalf of my colleagues on Council and the 800, 000 residents of the City of Ottawa, it is my distinct pleasure to extend a very warm welcome to all those in attendance of inaugural TeKnoWave Graduation Reception.

As Head of Council, I am delighted to lend my fullest support to the TeKnoWave pilot program, the first National Aboriginal IT Training Program. Through this initiative, more First Nations, Inuit and Métis students are able to gain access to acquiring the technical and managerial skills necessary to fulfill careers in business, enhance Aboriginal self-reliance as well as creating new employment opportunities for other individuals.

Thanks to the collaborative efforts of Willis College, the University of Winnipeg, Aboriginal Workforce Participation Initiative as well as other community partners in the private sector and non-profit domain, eight graduates have successfully completed the Program in its initial year.

I would like to take this opportunity to convey my sincerest congratulations to the first eight graduates of the Program and to offer my best wishes to them for every success in their future endeavours and career paths.

May tonight's Gala Graduation be a milestone beginning for many more successive ceremonies celebrating the achievements of Aboriginal students in the Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'Bob Chiarelli'.

Bob Chiarelli
Mayor
City of Ottawa