Jurning up on my first visus, snow and -500 with the wind chill, seeing the gym building and thinking and thinking "I can't wait to study here!"

I loved the three years there in the nursing program and my graduation. The best three years of my life. I became a reg. nurse which I wanted to be since I was a child. On my graduation I was in my 40s and the single mom if two teenagers.

THE FREE T-SHIRT FROM FROSH WEEK. I'VE BEEN SO PROUD WORN IT 35 TIMES, KEEP IT UP!

all-night study sessions!

Receiving my PSW cartificate.
and graduating with honors.

I'll be making memories there next year can't wait!!! plant the state of the state of

meeting some of my best

James Carry the Welding instructor @ the stoney creek campus.
Thanks Jim for all the extra guidance!

FULFILLING
THE PROMISE

There are 150 many, T took my daughter

to her first basketball game

The Mohawk Student Experience — A Progress Report

showing up for Graduation on Saturday morning and finding out it was the night before... and so I graduated with 200 guys from the automotive etc courses...

I can't pick one memory in particular, my whole program itself was great. Through my program, I've met some of my closest friends. My program helped me gain a ton of confidence

Best thing that happened was getting through the interview process and gaining acceptance to Child and Youth Worker program! Des

THE ARNIE!!!! Bahahah

III тонашк

**FUTURE READY** 

Definitely sharing some pints with good friends. And also the opportunities given - seeing myself on TV for the first time doing what I love. I really miss working at Mohawk College library it's been a very long time! But was my

WE ASKED: TELL US YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOHAWK **COLLEGE MEMORY** 

In June 2010, Student Services Moving Forward was adopted by the Mohawk Board of Governors and a new VP Student Services role was created along with the Student Services Committee of the Board. This progress report was developed to capture a summary of key performance outcomes in relation to the Board's strategic vision for Student Services.

#### **VISION**

Mohawk will lead the next evolution of student services through excellence in practice, continuous improvement and innovation.

#### **MISSION**

Building relationships with students by delivering exceptional services that make students feel welcomed and valued and support achievement of their full potential.

#### **PROMISE**

Exceptional service to students throughout the cycle of their college experience from pre-admission to graduation and beyond. We will invite and support a level of engagement that assures our students a college experience that empowers them to transform their lives. This is our Mohawk Promise.



**FULFILLING THE PROMISE** 

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PRE-ADMISSION

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#### **FULFILLING THE PROMISE**

The Mohawk Student Experience — A Progress Report

For every Mohawk student, college is a personal journey of growth, learning and discovery. Students gain new knowledge and skills, learn about themselves and others, and develop relationships that can last a lifetime.

At Mohawk, we promise our students a "college experience that empowers them to transform their lives." Recognizing that this transformation depends on the entire experience students have at college, both inside and outside the classroom, we provide exceptional student services that are aligned and integrated with our stellar academic programs. Together, they deliver the Mohawk Promise.

This report is an inaugural review of the many diverse services, activities and programs we offer to help Mohawk students succeed from their first contact with the college through to graduation and beyond – to help them become Future Ready. It marks the implementation of our comprehensive Mohawk Student Success Plan, launched in 2013, and will provide benchmarks against which we can measure our achievements and ensure that we continually improve our services over the years.

Increasing coordination of efforts by Student Services, Corporate Services and the Academic Schools are turning the goals of the Student Success and Academic Plans into action.

We have achieved the first goal of the Student Success Plan to move from 5th to 3rd place in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) in graduation rates in three years. Our second goal was to be at, or above, the provincial graduation rate, average in five years. We have reduced that margin from 4.7% to 2.1%, and are in a good position to achieve this goal in two years.

We believe these increases can be attributed to students having higher levels of career clarity when selecting their programs, career counselling supports, enhanced academic supports, peer mentoring programs, early intervention initiatives and greater access to financial assistance. We anticipate the number of students graduating from Mohawk will continue to increase as we continue to improve our services and retention strategies.

Most importantly, our students say that we are on the right track. For the fifth year in a row, Mohawk ranked number one in overall student satisfaction among the six GTHA colleges in the latest Key Performance Indicator (KPI) survey results. Mohawk finished first among GTHA colleges in:

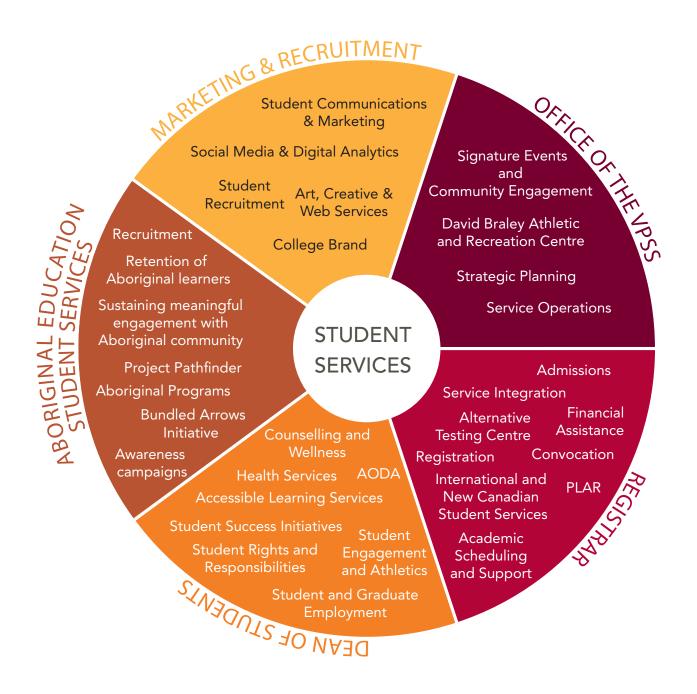
- Student satisfaction
- Graduate employment rate
- Graduate satisfaction rate
- Overall quality of services
- Overall quality of facilities

We continue to take strong strides in the right direction.

Please read on to follow our students through their Mohawk experience!

Wayne Poirier, VP Student Services

### Student Services Organization





#### PRE-ADMISSION

Introducing post-secondary possibilities

The first step to engage students in a meaningful postsecondary experience is to get them in the door, by letting them know about the advantages of a Mohawk education.

# Getting the message out — marketing and recruitment

In 2014, the seven-member Student Recruitment Team connected with over 24,000 people and promoted Mohawk programs at over 250 sites across the province, including high schools, colleges, universities and community sites, and major post-secondary fairs.

Marketing and Recruitment in partnership with the Mohawk Student Association gave over 500 general public campus tours.

Most recruiting is in high schools and other post-secondary institutions, but Mohawk also has two customized programs to reach specific audiences:

#### College-in-Motion

Special advisors work in priority neighbourhoods with high levels of poverty to assist vulnerable youth to navigate their educational options. They provide support, mentoring and advocacy at 24 sites, working with eight local social service agencies.

#### Aboriginal recruitment

Aboriginal recruitment staff participate in the Aboriginal Postsecondary Information Program tour, visiting native communities across southern and near-north Ontario and visit Six Nations Polytechnic, and the Ogwehoweh Skills and Trades Training Centre weekly, meeting one-to-one with prospective students. They attended 75 off-site events, such as Pow Wows, personally connecting with 1,285 people.

# Project Pathfinder: a unique introduction for Aboriginal students

Developed with urban Aboriginals and First Nations communities, this two-week summer experience provides Aboriginal youth age 13-17 with a taste of life on a postsecondary campus, while promoting traditional Aboriginal culture. Forty-nine students participated in activities that



introduced them to PSE pathways in professions and skilled trades. They learned the Mohawk language, and received help with job skills like resume writing.

# Talking to students where they're looking for information

#### Social media

Mohawk is active on all social media platforms and met or exceeded its goals for this year:

- Facebook ranked 3rd among Ontario colleges
- Pinterest ranked #1 with newly-introduced page
- YouTube moved into 6th place with a 158% increase in views

#### Web traffic

Web traffic to full-time and continuing education programs grew by 1% and 6% this year with direct links to specific program areas:

 Maintained large 2013-14 increase of 14% and 26% in 2014-15

# Supporting the steps from application to enrolment

Mohawk's Getting Ready campaign ensures applicants have completed all pre-admission requirements and are prepared to successfully begin their studies. The campaign includes:

- A welcome letter with access to the MOCOmotion student portal
- Program eligibility assessment with advice on upgrading and preparatory programs, testing or alternate programs
- Acceptance or wait-listing based on program space
- Open House events and information sessions

An offer of admission provides detailed information on fee payments and financial planning, housing, registration and orientation.

As well as supporting student applicants, this pre-admission process is designed to maintain and build conversion ratios, identify risk areas and trigger mitigation strategies and marketing activities to meet enrolment targets.

# Marketing campaigns and recruitment

Marketing and recruitment efforts were closely aligned to reach target audiences with relevant information:

- STEP INTO THE FUTURE theme added to recruitment materials and delivered across many platforms
- #1 College in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area for the 5th year in a row emphasis
- Future Ready widely-used, and is now a tagline on the logo

### Enrolment results show recruitment effectiveness

Mohawk's enrolment performance has been positive in 2014-15. When compared to 2013-14, 2.9% growth is observed, representing 813 students. This is in line with the overall Ontario Colleges 2.6% growth for Fall 2014. The financial plan target was nearly achieved with -0.1% or 30 students short of target. For Continuing Education students, enrolments are -6%.

The fall term, often used as a benchmark for fiscal enrolment trends within the college system, attests to the growth Mohawk has achieved. Looking at the past five years, there has been 11% growth in full-time enrolments, representing a yearly average of 2.9% – the only exception was 2011-12 where the college sector experienced a labour disruption. Trending back to 2007-08, there has been a yearly average of 4.5% growth.

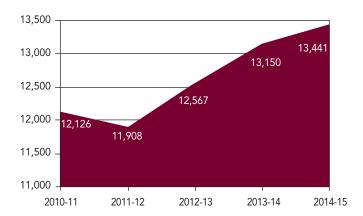
#### College-in-Motion

257 students directly recruited by this team are currently enrolled in Mohawk programs.

#### **Aboriginal**

Grand River Post-Secondary Education Office (GRPSEO) is the Band Sponsorship agency at Six Nations of the Grand River and directly supports the large contingent of Aboriginal learners at Mohawk College. As noted in the GRPSEO 2014 annual report, Mohawk College continues to attract the most Aboriginal learners when compared to GRPSEO's 10 ten college and universities. In 2014, 736 Aboriginal learners enroled at Mohawk.

#### Fall Full-Time Enrolment





# ADMISSION Getting started

Once they are enrolled, Mohawk students are offered a wide range of support, advice and assistance from registration onwards.

### Many ways to access information and assistance

#### In person

At The Square, the Student Services 'one-stop' hub for all registration services, as well as Accessible Learning Services and Counselling:

- Students can speak with Student Services Representatives about admissions, financial assistance, international student services, registration, payments and convocation
- Specialists, advisors, case managers, learning strategists and counsellors are available for more indepth conversations

 Welcome Desk staff members help students, applicants and guests to find the service they need

The main Square is at the Fennell campus, with satellite operations at McMaster and Stoney Creek.

# New processes will improve wait times

Wait times for all services are longest at peak times of year, but will be reduced by:

- A triage service for all advising plus an appointment-booking option
- Implementation of a cohesive and unified registration system and changes in Continuing Education processes

# Making money management fun

#### Mo' Money Resource Centre events

1,500 students
participated in a range
of special events
such as Cooking on a
Budget with Chef Dan
Magna, DIY Holiday Gift
Demonstration and



James Cunningham's Funny Money Man presentation.

Visit mohawkcollege.ca/momoney

#### Reality Cheque online game

Financial Assistance and MEDIC Lab staff collaborated to develop an interactive 'choose your destiny' game that helps students learn how to take control of their money. 500 students have played since the fall.

Play the game at realitycheque.ca



#### On the phone

The Mohawk Call Centre answers 3,000-3,500 calls a month at non-peak times, and 5,000 during semester start, and other milestone dates throughout the year.

- Wait times can vary from 2-5 minutes during the semester, to 35-45 minutes at the start of semester, or when registration opens
- In 2014 Mohawk conducted a Contact Centre assessment and will implement improvements in 2015

#### Online

The Call Centre also answers all *Ask Mohawk* emails, up to 250 a day during the semester start.

# Financial support for students includes 'financial literacy' tools

Over 65% of Mohawk students count on OSAP grants and loans, and other forms of financial support to cover the cost of their post-secondary education.

#### **OSAP**

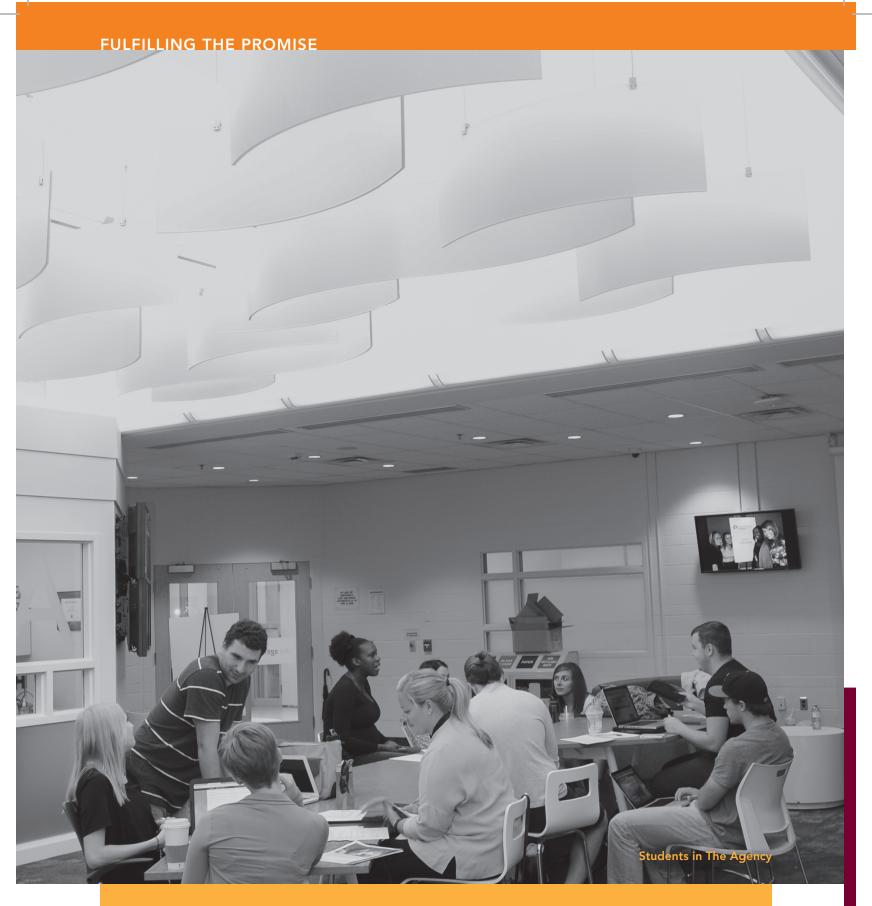
For the 2014-15 academic year 6,164 Mohawk students received \$55 million in OSAP support. The total funding was comparable to 2013-14, but an increase of 417 applications meant an average \$700 reduction in funding per student. On average, OSAP for Mohawk students is split 25% in grants and 75% in repayable loans. An additional \$3.7 million 30% Off Ontario Tuition Grant funding was awarded this year.

#### Scholarships and bursaries

There was a significant increase in the scholarship and bursary funding available in 2014-15. Mohawk's increased *Tuition Set Aside* funding resulted in an 18% increase in the number of students receiving tuition bursaries. In addition, donor-supported funding increased by 40%, resulting in a 25% increase in student recipients compared to the previous year, with average donor awards of \$800. In total 3,571 students received scholarships and bursaries.

### Financial literacy is a key driver of student success

Mohawk launched a financial resource centre in 2014. Recognizing that students need support to understand their financial situations and manage their funds, Financial Assistance worked with Family Services of Hamilton and McMaster University to compile money management resources for students, providing them with tools to graduate with less debt and learn lifelong money management skills.



#### STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Engaged in learning — and in college life

Research shows that students do better academically when they feel connected to their schools, their teachers and other students. Mohawk's orientation and transition activities provide a welcome and introduction to new students and are designed to ensure that students make meaningful connections with peers from the start.

# Orientation starts before the semester begins

#### **Smart Start**

In 2014, 764 students were welcomed on campus through Start Smart student transition sessions where they choose from a variety of student-success oriented workshops to help them prepare for college, such as time management, navigating 'e-learn' and services on campus.

#### Day One orientation

Introduced two years ago, this new model for welcoming students to the college continues to surpass attendance and satisfaction goals each fall and winter term. The overall average attendance across all campuses was 64% (3,689 students) in fall 2014 as compared to 52% (3,661 students) in 2013.

Three activities help students develop connections to their peers, faculty, school and careers:

- **1.Program Launch** –to meet classmates and learn about expectations and opportunities in their programs
- 2. College Welcome an introduction to the college as a whole
- **3. Lunch and a social activity** a chance to connect outside the classroom

#### Student advising fosters success

Mohawk provides 'student lifecycle' advising that starts pre- admission and continues till graduation. Pre-admission advising helps students pick the right programs and gain career clarity. Post-admission advising ensures that students have in fact chosen the right programs. The advising team is cross-functional to ensure service integration and includes both general advisors and specialists, like counsellors, financial advisors, registration staff and career advisors. Peer leaders also support students as tutors and mentors.

This team continues to support more and more students every year. In 2014-15, 4,704 individual students met with the Student Service Advisors, which represents 35.9% of the overall student population.

#### **Student Services Signature Event**

Collaborative and college-wide with a focus on student and staff engagement and student satisfaction

**College Welcome** creates an environment of support and open dialogue from day one of new students' college experience. MoCrew students act as ambassadors for the college and student volunteers facilitate a variety of high-energy team building activities. 3,636 students attended the 2014-2015 College Welcome events.

# Student Success, First Year Experience Sub-committee

Mohawk is creating a common culture of support for a student-centred First Year Experience to ensure that students have ongoing effective supports to adjust to the college environment.

Accomplishments include:

- Revised learning outcomes for 'Day One' and the 'First Year Orientation' programs.
- Participation on the 'Program & Career Launch' faculty review team on academic orientation practices.

# Better service delivery for Continuing Education Students

Following a year-long review of student governance at Mohawk College, the Mohawk College Association of Continuing Education Students (MCACES) has been integrated with the Mohawk Students Association (MSA).



This decision, supported by the boards of both associations and the College will improve overall service delivery for Continuing Education students. The MCACES Resource Centre will continue to provide all services.

#### 'At-risk' advising

One of the most important things Advisors do is support students who are on probation and therefore academically at risk of not completing their program. Students with probation status are deemed academically 'at-risk' and must meet with an advisor to be able to re-register. In January 2015, 83.9% of 'at-risk' students from the fall 2014 semester re-registered. After two years of significant improvements, this is on par with last year, and represents an increase in 6.8% improvement from 2012.

New efforts to reach out to and support students on probation this past year included an increase in part-time staff to ensure students could see advisors more quickly. Video messages were added to the email campaign, which contributed to the positive results.

#### Peer tutoring and peer-assisted study sessions

These two Learning Support Centre programs continue to support more students each year. The centre was renovated this past year, which improved the experience of students using the space for studying and tutoring. Student satisfaction with the Peer Tutoring program and Individual/Group study space both improved by 2% in this year's KPI.

### Health and wellness support available for all Mohawk students

The mental health dimension to student issues, remains constant at 34% of cases, plus an increase of 31% contact in Counselling since 2012, indicates the growing impact of mental health factors and the student support required. In response, Mohawk is implementing a comprehensive wellness delivery model that emphasizes health promotion. This past year, a Nurse Health Education Promoter and Counselling delivered 75 health and wellness promotion events across all campuses.

- Mental Health outreach strategies are a collaboration with faculty and student volunteers
  - 184 students and staff have been trained in Mental Health First Aid, including the Mohawk Student Association Board.
- Community partners play a pivotal role to ensure right services are available at the right time
   Mohawk Counselling and Wellness services support students to access health services from community providers close to the campuses:
  - The St. Joseph's Mental Health Hospital's Youth Wellness Centre triages students with complex mental health issues on Fennell Campus.

- Hamilton Mad Students' Collective established a student-led group at Mohawk.
- Partnerships established with Public Health, COAST, Canadian Mental Health Association, St. Joseph's Schizophrenia, Peer Mentor and Cleghorne programs and Alternatives for Youth programs.
- Mohawk, McMaster and Redeemer Youth Wellness Centre obtained funding for a mobile clinic to support students with complex mental health issues.

#### Mental Health in Motion engages students to talk about their mental wellbeing

A new peer-to-peer initiative through social media, face-to-face and in the counselling office

- Over 700 students engaged with peers during the event launch at three campuses, with continued weekly contact
- Success Coaching Blog was introduced to engage students online

#### Accessibility supports success

Continued progress implementing Mohawk's Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities (AODA) multi-year plan strengthens students' experience. Accessible Learning Services 2014 initiatives include:

- An Interpreter Working Group to develop standards and accessible event planning for Deaf, deafened, and hard of hearing individuals
- A campus Accessibility Audit informed by key stakeholders, including students with disabilities
- Faculty consultations on Academic Accommodation planning
- Collaborative consultation with WSIB for enhanced support for WSIB-sponsored students and MTCU-Second Career employment specialists for Second-Career funded students
- Assistance with "transitioning out" to employment or co-on
- Mohawk successfully secured increased funding from Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU)

#### Social Inc. wins international award

The "Erase Hate and Draw Love" campaign won a Bronze Prix Image Awards PPPC 2014, awarded to Social Inc. /Marco Felvus/ Universal Links Inc.



# Co-curricular activities supplement learning and foster student engagement

Research shows that students who are actively involved in activities outside the classroom gain more from their college experience than those who are not. Mohawk encourages students to get involved in co-curricular activities to supplement learning and to network and collaborate with other students.

Students gain experiences relevant to their chosen careers, build their 'soft skills' and make meaningful connections with faculty, staff and their fellow students aligned with Institutional Learning Outcomes. Students can choose their activities from a broad range of social, athletic, cultural, volunteer and community service options that match their interests.

#### **Social Inclusion**

Social Inc., a positive drop-in space provided by the Mohawk Student Association, continues to expand and diversify its programming to support inclusion and diversity. Among this year's highlights:

- Positive Space Day hosted at MacNab Secondary school with six interactive workshops and facilitated activities for all grade nine students
- Laverne Cox lecture with 1,200 students and community members in attendance
- 8th Annual Day of Pink, in collaboration with program and service areas across the campus,
- 120 participants who registered for the online Social Inclusion module

resulting in an overall total of 4,413 student contacts in Social Inc. for 2014.

Aboriginal Education and Student services tracks student use of the Aboriginal Student Service Centre though signin sheets. In 2014, there were 3,529 visits to the Centre by both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal student learners.

# Co-curricular Record captures student engagement

Launched in 2014, the co-curricular record gives students the opportunity to have their activities outside the classroom validated and presented in a certificate format that can be included in e-portfolios and as support for resumes and applications. This year 1,649 students started a Co-curricular Record with 213 students adding at least 1 activity, representing a total of 3,465 volunteer hours.

#### Athletics and recreation

The Mohawk Mountaineers Varsity Program had a very successful season capturing seven provincial medals. Gold medals were earned in Men's Individual Golf, Division



II Team Golf, Men's Volleyball and Men's Basketball. The Women's Basketball and Mixed Badminton Team brought home silver medals. The Women's Curling Team came away with the bronze.

Mohawk College also hosted the National Men's Basketball Championship hosting more than 200 student athletes and their delegations and thousands of spectators over four days in March.

Recreation and intramural programming participation increased significantly year-over-year, with 200 more intramural participants totalling 1,496 and 473 more participants overall in intramural, recreations and special event programming, totalling 1,943 in 2014-15 than 2013-14. There was a focus on an increasing programming volume with a greater variety of events to attract a wider audience. Salsa dancing, busking and bubble soccer were introduced this year.



#### Design award-another trophy

Mohawk's David Braley Athletic & Recreation Centre was awarded a 2014 Athletic Business Facility of Merit award from Athletic Business magazine.

The judges were impressed with the building's design, particularly the floor-to-ceiling windows and its compact efficiency, noting the fitness bridge that connects the building to G Wing as a stand-out feature of the building.





#### **Mohawk Student Leadership Academy**

Student leaders, with high levels of involvement in Mohawk volunteer and extracurricular activities, are chosen to participate in the Mohawk Student Leadership Academy (MLSA) where they gain skills, training and resources to help them excel as student leaders. When they complete



the program, the students receive an Acknowledgement of Completion document, an enhanced opportunity for on campus employment, and they become members of MoCrew representing Mohawk at events, such as the President's Welcome. In 2014, 71 students completed the MLSA program.

#### Student Rights and Responsibilities Office assists students with concerns and complaints

The Student Rights & Responsibilities Office acts as a first point of contact for staff and students to address student behavior issues, academic appeals, human rights and other complaints in keeping with College Policies and Procedures. Overall, experience shows that when policy and procedures are followed, matters resolve in positive outcomes that uphold Mohawk's institutional values of respect, civility, fairness, responsiveness and accountability.

The Office's caseload has been steadily increasing, both in volume and complexity. Over the past five years, there has been a 48% increase in the total number of cases, with 39% of all cases having a mental health contributing factor, an increase of 23% over the five year period.

This year, although there was a slight decrease of 6% of cases overall, dispute resolution cases consistently increased each month over the fall semester, representing a total increase of 46% from last year, and the Manager and Dean of Students have continued to be involved in cases that are more complex and multi-dimensional.

#### **Student Engagement Index**

To develop a Student Engagement Index, Mohawk measures student engagement inside and outside of the classroom on an annual basis with a survey, administered in March. Results for 2014-15 indicate that student engagement overall remains at a medium engagement level.

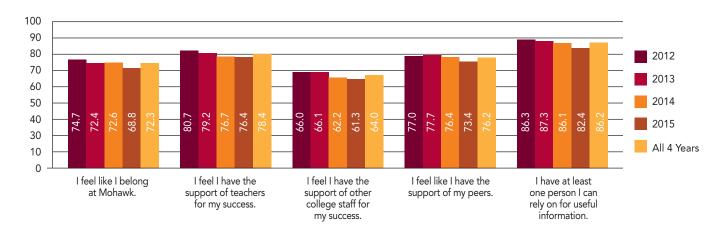
#### Individual Engagement

Looking at the individual questions, most students either strongly agreed or agreed that they had the connection, support and satisfaction with people at Mohawk.

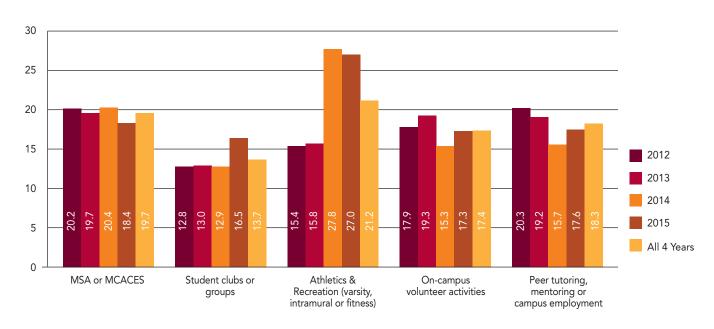
#### Participation in Extracurricular Activities

Overall 79-80% of the students felt that they had the right level of involvement (39.8%-45.4%) or wanted to get more involved at Mohawk (35.1%-39.8%).

#### Level of Connection, Support and Satisfaction with People at Mohawk



#### **Current Participation in Extracurricular Activities**



# Mohawk students recognize excellent Corporate, Academic and Student Services

For the fifth year in a row, Mohawk ranked number one in overall student satisfaction among the six Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) colleges in the latest Key Performance Indicator (KPI) survey results released by the Government of Ontario.

Mohawk scored at or higher than the provincial average in the following services areas:

- Counselling Services a 100% satisfaction rate of those who used the service
- Food Services 71% satisfaction rate
- Campus Safety and Security services 80% satisfaction rate
- Tutoring Services 67% satisfaction rate
- Academic advising services 75% satisfaction rate

#### Service Use and Retention

A baseline analysis this year of re-registration rates among students who used many of the core services showed that the average, college-wide fall to winter (F14-W15) re-registration rate was 79.7%. Almost all core services produced very strong results, in some cases, with re-registration rates between 5-10% higher than the college average. Counsellors work with the most at-risk students, and often those suffering from mental illness, explaining why the re-registration rate is slightly below the college average (77.7%) but still a strong result, considering the challenges this group of students face.

#### Service Use and Retention

Student Service	Descriptor	Fall 2014	Winter 2015	F14-W15 Retention
Athletics	Varsity Athletes	233	208	89.3%
Student Engagement	Co-Curricular Record	74	72	97.3%
Student Employment	Employment PREP Appointment	253	228	90.1%
Accessible Learning Services	CM/LS	780	682	87.4%
Advising	SSA	2,399	2,042	85.1%
Counselling	Counsellor	502	390	77.7%
Peer Assisted Study Sessions	P.A.S.S. Attendees	320	287	89.7%
Peer Tutoring	Tutees	590	505	85.6%
	Service Use Total	5,151	4,414	85.6%
	Overall College Total	14,087	11,232	79.7%



#### Student Services Signature Event: Celebration of Learning

Celebration of Learning was a pilot event that showcased exceptional students who have maintained high academic achievement in their programs and have also made 'above and beyond' contributions to improve the college environment, their communities and the experience of their peers. These students demonstrate Mohawk's top learning

outcomes, by showing that they are outstanding communicators, collaborators, critical thinkers, responsible citizens and continuous learners. Award-winners come from across a range of programs and are at different stages of their college experience – some are in their first year, others mid-way through or about to graduate.

237 people attended the Celebration of Learning, including 30 student award -winners, 61 award-winners' guests, 124 staff, faculty, program coordinators, student success advisors, deans and associate deans, and members of senior management and 22 student volunteers.



#### **GRADUATION ...AND BEYOND**

Future-Ready students head into their futures

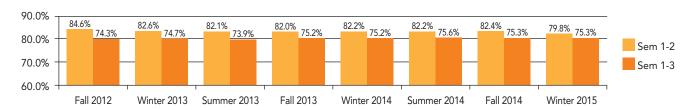
## Retention and graduation rates are intertwined

Improving first year student retention rates is the key to improving graduation rates. Graduation rates have improved by nearly 4% in recent years: from 60.4% in 2011 to 63.7% in 2014. Semester 1-3 retention rates are also

improving incrementally, from 74.3% in fall 2012 to 75.3% in winter 2015.

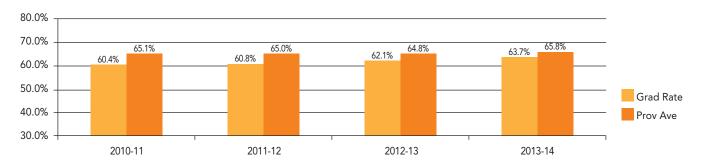
The design and submission of School and Student Service Retention Plans by each Associate Dean and Director is a critical element of this work and represents a best practice for Mohawk College.

#### Program Retention - College-Wide\*



\*Note: Retention reported does not include McMaster Collaborative programs, but does include International students. On their own, International students score consistently better than the College average. In Winter 2015 retention rates for semester 1-2 was 91.6%. Similarly, the retention rate for semester 1-3 was 86%.

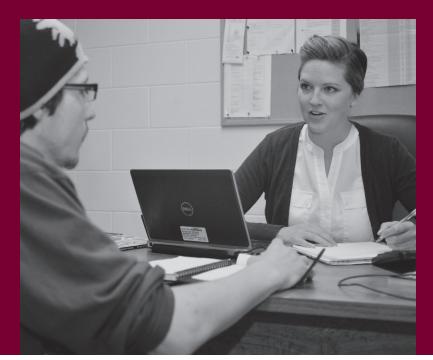
#### **KPI Grad Rate**



#### **Employment KPI rates confirm approach**

Mohawk's focus in teaching and learning is to introduce students to 'real world' experience while they are learning to ensure that graduates have are ready for employment. This approach is reflected in an extensive range of work integrated programs, co-op, experiential learning opportunities as well as field and clinical placements.

- Mohawk finished first among GTHA colleges in graduate employment rate
- Survey results also show that 85.7 per cent of Mohawk's most recent graduates found employment within six months of graduation.



# College-in-Motion grad numbers rising

93 students have graduated from Mohawk since this customized recruiting program began in 2012, with 42 students graduating in 2014, and the largest cohort expected to graduate in June 2015.



#### **Fulfilling the Promise**

- Ranked #1 in overall student satisfaction –5th year in a row
- Student Success Plan implemented
- From 5th to 3rd in GTHA for graduation rates



#### **Pre-Admission**

- Recruitment connects with over 25,000 potential students
- College in Motion team supports vulnerable students in their communities
- Project Pathfinder a unique introduction for Aboriginal students
- Getting Ready campaign prepares students for a successful start



#### **Admission**

- The Square is a "one-stop" hub for most student services
- OSAP, scholarships and bursaries assist over 65% of students
- Mo' Money makes money management fun
- Reality Cheque online game improves 'financial literacy'

#### **CONCLUSION**

The college experience





Future-Ready students head into their futures

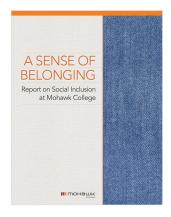
#### **Student Engagement**

- Day One orientation connects students to peers, teachers and the college
- Student advising helps ensure program fit and career clarity
- Wellness strategy builds a Healthy Campus Community
- Co-curricular Record a certificate for resumes and job applications
- Social Inc supports a sense of belonging for all students

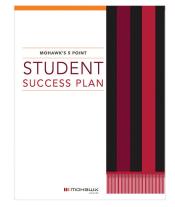
#### **Graduation ...and Beyond**

- Retention plans developed by Student Services and every school
- Grad rates have improved, up 4% and rising
- First among GTHA colleges in graduate employment rate 85.7%
- Alumni stay connected as mentors, volunteers and donors

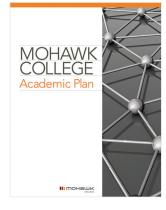
#### References



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