

A History of Algoma University College

Chapter I: Citizens' Ten Year Struggle for a Post-Secondary Institution in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario

By the mid-nineteen fifties, at the beginning of the post-war boom, the new realization of the importance of post-secondary education that swept southern Ontario reached Sault Ste. Marie. Local people began agitating for post-secondary facilities in Sault Ste. Marie. At the same time the provincial government was trying to work out coherent policies of regional development of which enhanced post-secondary education opportunities were a key part. We need to see how these provincial policies and realities interacted with the desires of the citizens of the Sault.

D.M. Cameron in his discussion paper, "The Northern Dilemma: Public Policy and Post-Secondary Education in Northern Ontario" attributes the growth in interest and enrolment in post-secondary education (between 1951 and 1971 the post-secondary enrolment in Ontario increased from 21,176 to 123,030) to a number of factors: the population boom that began immediately after the end of the war and worked its way through the elementary and secondary education levels; massive immigration also at that time; the increase from pre-war 6% to post-war 20% in the proportion of the 18-24 age group which went on to post-secondary education; the growing belief, in the population, that education was the key to success and prosperity of both the individual and the province; and a gradually articulated public policy in support of post-secondary education on the part of the provincial government. In a statement on April 5, 1966 the Premier of Ontario, John Robarts, stated the following: ". . . The need for post-secondary education, for expanded technical facilities, and for adult retraining is pressing. Increased public

investment in education in the lower-income regions of Ontario is perhaps the best long-run key to development”.¹

This provincial policy, Cameron further claims, was founded on the three pillars of 1) secularization (previously many post-secondary institutions were church-based), 2) universal accessibility, and 3) increasing provincial systemic control. The latter two were most important in terms of the surge in growth. A policy of universal accessibility obviously would encourage growth.

The third pillar is a bit more complicated. The major shift in the Federal Government’s funding of post-secondary education after 1966, by no longer directly funding universities, but by making unconditional transfers to the provinces instead, had the effect of giving the provinces much more direct systemic control of universities. Moreover, the secondary school streaming that came into effect in Ontario in 1961 worked its way to the post-secondary level by 1966. Three streams – Arts and Science; Science, Technology and Trades; and Business and Commerce – each in either 4 or 5 year options were created.

The result of these, by 1966, with the massively increased participation and retention rates, meant that the two types of existing post-secondary institutions – universities and institutes of technology – could not cope with the post-secondary education requirements of the graduates of these streams. Universities accepted only 5 year Arts and Science graduates, and the technical institutes were too few to cope with the others. Cameron says Ontario could have responded by both starting a series of junior colleges combining non-degree and university transfer programs, and expanding and

¹ “Design for Development” Statement by the Prime Minister of the Province of Ontario on Regional Development Policy, April, 1966, p.9.

enlarging the institutes of technology. Ontario did neither of these, but instead created a series of wholly new institutions, the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology (CAATs), and built new universities while expanding existing ones. The new CAATs were to offer programs in 5 general categories: technology; technician; apprenticeship; adult occupational training; and general interest courses.²

So this was the context in which a group of interested and persistent citizens in the late nineteen-fifties and early to mid-sixties began to agitate for a post secondary institution in Sault Ste. Marie. But there's a further context we have to take into account – the local context, in terms of how Sault residents at the time were meeting their post secondary needs. Sault students, of course, always had the option of attending universities in southern Ontario, or out of province, or even out of country, in Michigan, for example. Lake Superior State College, just across the border, which started in 1946 as the Sault branch of Michigan Technological University, was an option many Sault Ontario students took. There were a number of small religious colleges, e.g.. in Sudbury, North Bay and Hearst that served local populations. Perhaps the majority of Sault university students opted for a part-time provision of university degree courses offered by the University of Western Ontario in the Sault. Dr. Ken McLarty described this as follows in his Ph.D. thesis:

In Sault Ste. Marie, for instance, the increased number of candidates registered for 'extension' courses from the University of Western Ontario in London. The instructor of each course concerned would visit the Friday evening-Saturday class sessions on a few occasions during the September to April term. The balance of course and sessions were coordinated by a local person with the highest qualifications available in the particular subject area. A number of those involved as candidates in this approach combined this opportunity with summer residence

² See Cameron, D.M., Chapter One, pp. 1-9.

on campus to complete requirements for the three year General Arts degree in a three to four year period.³

Any and all of these options were, at the least, inconvenient and expensive for local Sault residents. And, something we'll see later that people complained about, took significant amounts of money out of the local economy.

On the technical/vocational side there existed a Manpower Retraining Program and the Ontario Vocational Centre (OVC), both of which were later, in 1966, incorporated into the newly created CAAT, Cambrian College, that later, in 1972, became Sault College.

These, then, in short, were the local and provincial contexts in which Sault residents, mainly leaders in education, research and industry, began the process of agitating for post-secondary facilities for the Sault.

The earliest evidence we have of such activity was from 1955 when informal discussion among interested citizens about post-secondary facilities was said to have started. Then in the spring of 1957 more formal and focused efforts began. Harold Crowder, a trustee of the Board of Education, took on the leadership of a group whose stated objective was the founding of a "Technical Institute". An initial meeting in May, 1957, attended by representatives of local industry, business, teachers, and Board of Education, took place to determine whether these various groups agreed on the need for

³ McLarty, James Kenneth, Organization of Higher Education for Improved Access-Equity and Spacial Justice in Primary Resource Regions: The Case of Northern Ontario, Canada. Dissertation for the Degree of Ph.D. Michigan State University, 1979, p.37-38. The University of Western Ontario was offering extension courses in the Sault at least from the fall of 1957; see "Western U. to Provide Extension Courses Here", The Sault Daily Star, Sept. 14, 1957, second section. They stopped providing these courses in 1963. See "Algoma College Sought", The Sault Daily Star, March 27, 1963, p. 2. See also minutes of a meeting of a Sault delegation with the Committee on University Affairs in Toronto, March 28, 1963, in which on a question by a Committee member as to why Western stopped the courses, Ralph Derby answered that they had difficulty in getting staff to commit to the every four week trip to northern centres. Derby also says that Western had been doing this for twelve years, so it seems the Star article cited immediately above couldn't have meant they just started in 1957.

such an institute.⁴ The meeting concluded that the feasibility of such an institute should be studied, and a Technical Institute Committee was struck to do so. At a June, 1957, meeting the committee discussed two possible models – the Ryerson one and the new Waterloo College work-study co-op model. The latter model was considered the more attractive and appropriate for the Sault.⁵ It seems clear, however, from subsequent discussions with Ministry officials, as we'll see below, that this group really had in mind a combination of these two models, i.e., an institution that combined technical studies à la Ryerson, with university credit courses. Two individuals, Allen Reid, shop director at the Technical and Commercial High School, and W.G. McGauley, vice-principal of the Collegiate Institute, were charged with the task of surveying city and district students to determine the level of support for such an institution.

The results of the survey, presented to a meeting of the committee in September, 1957, were not encouraging. Only 35-40 students had expressed an interest. Moreover, a Mr. Armstrong from Algoma Steel informed the group that his previously stated need for technicians at Algoma Steel had been higher than were actually needed. Though discouraged, the group continued to work, and in November, 1957, had worked out the details of such an institution re. enrolment, finances and courses, and forwarded this to the Provincial Government. Later that month a Sault delegation, Harold Crowder, Ralph Derby and Dr. Sinclair met in Toronto with the Minister of Education. The Minister wasn't encouraging; he thought both models – the co-op one and the Ryerson/technical

⁴ A former AUC student, Jill Inch, working under the direction of Dr. John Abbott, produced a paper entitled "The Idea of a University in a Small Northern Community", which dealt with the early beginnings of Algoma College. She apparently interviewed Mr. Crowder, and had obtained certain documents which she gracefully made available to this author. The author is indebted to Ms. Inch for some of the immediately following material, sources and quotes.

⁵ It's ironic that this was the model preferred at this very earliest stage. Some 31 years later, after AUC recruited a President, Dr. Lawson, from Waterloo University, he was instrumental in initiating a co-op programme for AUC.

one - were inappropriate. He was reported to have said “. . . the Ryerson Institute curriculum and a degree-granting curriculum would not mix.”⁶ The Minister also didn’t miss nor fail to point out the low interest figures uncovered by the survey. But, he agreed to send representatives from the Department to the Sault.

In February, 1958, Messrs. Lakie and Mitchell from the Department met in the Sault with the Technical Institute Committee. They stuck to their models and felt that the sort of hybrid technical/university model being proposed would not work. The problem was that the local committee believed that the particular circumstances in the Sault required a combination of the Ryerson model together with some university level courses. The Ministry representatives said this would neither be truly a Tech nor a University, and couldn’t accept it. One of them is quoted as giving the following rather elitist comment “. . . if they were hoping to send some of these ‘cooperative’ students to Queen’s or Toronto, there might be some serious obstacles in the way.”⁷ This form, the Ministry officials said, fell under the “Junior College” model, and was neither acceptable to the universities nor eligible for funding.⁸ What we see operating here is what Cameron reiterated again and again in his study – Ministry officials refused to move off their southern Ontario models for postsecondary education to accommodate the significantly different northern contexts.⁹

⁶ Quoted by Inch and referenced as “A Report to Members of the Technical Education Committee”, 19 November, 1957. This view of the Minister would seem to have been in line with Cameron’s findings, discussed above, that the Ministry didn’t take the option of the junior college model combining technical studies with university credit transfer programmes.

⁷ Quoted by Inch and referenced as from a ‘Technical Education Meeting’, 26 February, 1958, p.1.

⁸ This again confirms Cameron’s point that Ontario refused to take the Junior College model, and instead introduced the new and unique-to-Ontario CAAT. It also confirms Cameron’s point, to be elaborated later, that Ontario refused to deal with Northern post-secondary institutions in terms of their unique contexts, but simply imported made-in-South models.

⁹ D.M. Cameron, *Ibid.*, passim.

By April, 1958 Ministry officials indicated that they would consider a purely technical, Ryerson-like institution with a minimum enrolment of 100 students for the Sault. Discussion and planning around such an institution continued. A May 3, 1958 report in the Sault Star says in part:

A special education committee Friday agreed to organize a community project to raise \$40,000 to build a temporary building to house an institute of technology in the Sault. . . . At a meeting of the committee in the Technical-School, three special sub-committees were formed to solicit funds for a building; to seek part-time instructors from various industries; to gather information on a curriculum and to contact government departments. . . . The committee tentatively decided that the proposed institute will provide a first year study course based on the curriculum of Ryerson Technical Institute in Toronto. . . . It is proposed that the institute be sited on a farm on the Old Garden River Road in Tarentorus formerly owned by Dr. Alex Sinclair. . . . Chairman Harold E. Crowder . . . said a delegation had met with the Minister of Education with proposals for a co-operative earn-learn scheme and a combined curriculum plan, and offered to extend the institute's boundaries to take in more students. These plans did not meet with the Minister's approval.¹⁰

The article goes on to report on other discussions at the meeting including the need for such an institute, teachers needed, salary costs, and a further meeting with representatives of industry, City Council, Chamber of Commerce, service clubs and other organizations. A committee was set up to organize the community project, made up of Dr. J.M. Cameron, J. Laidlaw, Dr. W. McKinney, C. Carter, D. Naismith, Roy Samson, Dr. A. Sinclair, R.S. Derby, and H. Crowder.

This author could find no further documentary evidence about further meetings and planning by this group; according to Inch, pursuit of a technical institute was finally postponed. In any case the whole issue of a Technical Institution was eventually put to rest with the formation of the CAAT system after 1965, including a branch of Cambrian College in the Sault.

¹⁰ "Sault Tech Institute Funds Sought", The Sault Daily Star, May 3, 1958, front page.

Having been rebuffed on the idea of a 'Technical Institute', the group, in Inch's phrase, "with obstinate hope", latched on to the next best hope – a 'Junior College', despite what Ministry officials had said about that, as we saw above. In line with an earlier suggestion from Crowder to the Technical Education Committee to ". . . attempt to raise funds locally and start an Institute on a small scale hoping for future assistance."¹¹, a group began again in November, 1959, to work toward the establishment of a Junior College. A succinct front page article in the November 24, 1959 Sault Star heralds this new endeavor:

An exploratory committee is continuing a study of the feasibility of establishment of a junior college in the Sault. . .

It has had indication . . . that the Ontario department of Education would be interested in knowing what curriculum is proposed, and what enrolment and local financial support could be expected. In fact, the department's Committee on Universities has invited the local group to present a brief asking for recognition and grants.

In preparation is a suggested curriculum for first and second university work in arts, applied science, pre-medicine, pre-dentistry, and secretarial science. Such curriculum must be acceptable to established universities so that the junior college students may be admitted for third and fourth years at these established universities.

The local committee is also receiving views of industry about courses in technology along the lines of those offered at Ryerson Institute.

As soon as this information is complete, it is hoped that meetings can be arranged through home and school associations so that both local students and their parents may be fully informed. If they feel that a junior college is justified, an opportunity will be given the entire community to join a Junior College Association. Then plans for a capital fund campaign will be brought forward.¹²

Ironically, within two days of this article in the Sault Star another interesting article appeared reporting a meeting of more than 60 united Church clergy and lay people who heard an appeal by a Rev. J.W.E Newberry who was heading a campaign drive for

¹¹ Quoted by Inch and referenced as Harold E. Crowder, Technical Education Committee, to Dear Member, 18 April 1958.

¹² "Junior College Studied", The Sault Daily Star, November 24, 1959, front page.

\$1.5 million to establish a United Church university college in Sudbury or North Bay which would be federated with similar Roman Catholic and Anglican colleges in a new federated university. At the time it hadn't yet been decided whether it would be in North Bay or in Sudbury; we know, of course, that it eventually became Huntington in Sudbury. The Star reports that this appeal met with lukewarm reception locally. Both Dr. J.M. Cameron and Ralph Derby were in attendance and suggested that local church members should instead support the idea of a junior college in the Sault along the lines of what they had outlined to the community several days before, and which they reiterated at the meeting.¹³

A flurry of Sault Star articles over the next several weeks detail the activities of the junior college promoters. The first of these, an editorial, on November 30, argues that if a Northern University should be built it should be built in the Sault since it is "patent" that there is a need for such here. It goes on to quote at length a recent address of Dr. Claude Bissell, President of the University of Toronto to "the Junior League", saying that junior colleges have not been adequately explored by Ontario as one possible means of ". . . coping with the larger numbers and the increasing demand for higher education in Ontario, and of reducing the expenses of higher education for students living in areas distant from universities." He goes on to say that the junior college route in the U.S.A. has not always been successful, especially in terms of standards, but that Canada could improve on that: "I think that in Canada we have a chance to purify the concept of the junior college and to restore it to its original intention. The further suggestion has been

¹³ "Northern University Talked: Sault Junior College Issue Raised As United Church Support Sought", The Sault Daily Star, November 26, 1959, second section.

made that the junior college might take over the final year of secondary school . . .”¹⁴ It is interesting to note that this latter suggestion would have resonated well in the Sault especially since, when Lake Superior State College in Michigan began to take large numbers of Sault Ontario students, it allowed them to enroll after grade 12.

A December 9 article indicates that \$124,000 has been pledged by the Algoma Presbytery for the Huntington fund which has globally reached \$1,175,000. It goes on to report:

Commenting on recent statements in Sault Ste. Marie that this city should have its own junior college, Mr. Newberry said the long-range plan for Huntington calls for junior colleges in population centres away from the main universities. He emphasized, however, that the official United Church plan as backed by the executive of the General Council, the conferences and the presbyteries, was to establish the main institution first.

Mr. Newberry said that in recent conversations with the Department of education in Toronto he had been told that the provincial government is not anxious to encourage the setting up of any more junior colleges which are not directly connected with major universities.¹⁵

The real campaign for a junior college was heralded in the Sault Star under the caption: “Opening Shot: Junior College Promotion Campaign Meetings Start”, in the January 12, 1960 edition. Ralph Derby was reported to be in charge. A general invitation to all Sault residents, as well as 100 letters to specific individuals, invited them to one of three meetings to be held the following weeks at three local high schools. Dr. J.M. Cameron would be outlining the proposal for a junior college and take a question and answer period.¹⁶

¹⁴ “Junior College Worth Consideration”, The Sault Daily Star, November 30, 1959, p.6.

¹⁵ “\$124,000 from Algoma: More Than Million Given To University Fund Drive”, The Sault Daily Star, December 9, 1959, second section.

¹⁶ The Sault Daily Star, January 12, 1960, second section.

An article two days later signals the transition in thinking from a technical institute to a more academic emphasis:

These public meetings are bringing into the open a groundswell that started five years ago.

At that time, demand for advanced technical training began to make itself felt, particularly among the major industries in the Sault.

The proposal was made that an institute of technology be organized in town, along the lines of Ryerson Institute in Toronto.

Education-minded citizens, including those of the Board of Education, carried the ideas further.

They suggested that the chance for advanced studies should be provided locally, not only for those students interested in technical or shop work, but for all students.

Since then, and because of the ever-mounting numbers of students turned away from universities, through lack of space, it has become apparent that the emphasis for educational facilities belongs in the academic, rather than in the technical fields.

This does not mean that higher technical training has been passed over.¹⁷

In his pitch at the three scheduled meetings Dr. Cameron made the following major points about the proposed junior college: It was to be a public, non-denominational institution, administered locally. There would be both university and technical divisions. The “. . . university division would probably offer first-year or first and second years of general arts, applied science, commerce, dentistry, forestry, forest engineering, household science and pharmacy . . . the technology division . . . would offer the first year course common to ten different technologies: aeronautic, chemical, civil, electrical, electronic, gas, instruments, mechanical, metallurgical, and medical laboratory”.¹⁸ For the first time reference was made to Lakehead College in Fort William/Port Arthur, as a model. Statistics were cited on population and enrolment increases locally and the financial advantages of being able to study locally. It was suggested that the Junior College could

¹⁷ “Junior College: Five Years Planning Done”, The Sault Daily Star, January 14, 1960, second section.

¹⁸ “Early Start Urged on Junior College”, The Sault Daily Star, January 19, 1960, front page.

begin to operate as early as 1962 and be “in high gear” by 1965. It was suggested that it could initially operate out of spare classrooms in the new high school being constructed “on North St. and Second Line”, and eventually have its own permanent home at Strathclair farm. Questionnaires were distributed to the audiences that included the question “Do you consider the proposed junior college worthy of your support?”

The same January 19 edition of the Star also had a letter to the editor by a Margaret Ghent saying that the emphasis should not just be on a junior college, but on a full-fledged university She ends her letter with “Let us discard as mediocrity the narrow confines of only a Junior College. Let us support a school of higher learning with full University status in Sault Ste. Marie.”¹⁹

The January 19 edition also carried an article in which H.S. Braun, principal of Lakehead College of Arts, Science, and Technology, outlined the origin and development of his institution and its financing, programmes and student successes. It included a claim that the Registrar at the University of Western Ontario speaks highly of the Lakehead graduates. Its main point was to say that the success at Lakehead “. . . illustrates the practicality of Sault Ste. Marie making the effort to form a college of its own.”²⁰

A report on the first of the three public meetings was also contained in the same January 19 Star. It included answers by Dr. Cameron and Ralph Derby to questions from the audience. Included were questions on: the start time? (answer, 1962); quarters? (spare classrooms in new high school; happy to accept a gift of Strathclair farm); cost? (about a quarter million dollars); cost to students? (about half of what it would cost to go

¹⁹ “Asks University be Established in the Sault”, The Sault Daily Star, Jan. 19, 1960.

²⁰ “College in Sault Seen Practical”, The Sault Daily Star, Jan. 19, 1960, second section.

to another university); acceptance of graduates by big universities? (Western on record of being pleased with Lakehead graduates).²¹

The Star report of the second public meeting indicated a reiteration of the issues discussed in the first meeting. It emphasized Dr. Cameron's claim that a local junior college would better prepare students and enhance their chances of being accepted in upper years at universities that had limited spaces.²²

Another article in the same edition of the Star reported once again on the question and answer session of the second meeting. The main, new, interesting question was "Is it wise to affiliate with a university?" Answer: "The Lakehead Junior College is not affiliated with any and its students are accepted everywhere". Next question: "I understand the Department of Education does lean toward sponsorship?" Answer: "Myself I don't like sponsorship. Without it, the student is free to apply to any university for his degree."²³ This is an issue, that we will see later, will come to haunt the Junior College supporters, who rather naively thought they could avoid affiliation.

In the meantime, before the third public meeting took place, the Sault Star reported that a delegation from Sudbury (including W.L. Wright, Anglican Archbishop of Algoma) was heading to Toronto for a meeting with Premier Frost to discuss the formation of Laurentian University which was to involve a federation of three denominational colleges, Roman Catholic, Anglican, and United.²⁴ The next day's edition reported that the Premier had approved in principle the plan of the Sudbury delegation, and that private bills by the three religious denominations would be presented

²¹ "Is Junior College Wanted in Sault?", The Sault Daily Star, Jan. 19, 1960, p.14.

²² "Could have Junior College 'In High Gear' in 5 Years", The Sault Daily Star, Jan. 21, 1960, second section.

²³ "No Affiliation Planned for Junior College", The Sault Daily Star, Jan.21, 1960, p.28.

²⁴ "University of North Discussed", The Sault Daily Star, Jan. 25, 1960, p. 9.

to the legislature to implement it.²⁵ Meanwhile also, fundraising for Sudbury colleges continued locally; St. Andrews church in Blind River agreed to a pledge of \$16,000 for the future Huntington College.²⁶ Within days the private bills that would establish Laurentian University received clearance by the Ontario legislature committee on standing orders.²⁷

Seemingly undeterred by these events happening in Sudbury and Queen's Park, the local advocates soldiered on. Dr. Cameron, mainly, but also Dr. Sinclair, was reported speaking to groups including the University Women's Club, the Rotarians, and Home and School associations at various schools.²⁸

The third major public meeting at the Technical School on Feb. 17, 1960, produced a major advance in moving toward a junior college. Attended by "nearly 75" people, it declared the formation of the "Sault Ste. Marie Community Junior College Association". It established a constitution committee to draw up a constitution; members of this committee were: Mrs. J.L. Lang, William Hogg, Lawrence Brown, D.A. Machum and W.G.H. Bennett. A nomination committee was set up to nominate a pro-tem executive (to function as a board of governors) for the interim until a constitution is adopted; members were: Dr. Roger Dorland, Rev. M. Mulcahy, Mrs. J.L. Lang, Ralph Derby, and Dr. J.M. Cameron. The functions of the future board of governors were listed as:

. . . to enact by-laws; arrange financing; appoint a university advisory committee; deal with committees, university affairs, and the Department of Education;

²⁵ "College Plans Okayed", The Sault Daily Star, Jan. 26, 1960, p.2.

²⁶ "Huntington Project: Church Accepts \$16,000 as University Fund Goal", The Sault Daily Star, Feb. 6, 1960.

²⁷ "Four Sudbury University Bills Receive Clearance", The Sault Daily Star, Feb. 11, 1960, p. 9.

²⁸ Reported in Sault Star notices, Feb. 9, 17, 25 and 26.

arrange for accommodation, property, and the necessary staff; make studies of curricula to determine requirements.²⁹

A membership drive for the new association was conducted at this meeting and

“ . . . this resulted in \$64, a dollar from each member, and entitled them to be enrolled in what was described as ‘the first and only meeting of the Founders Club. Others entitled to join this club are those who had agreed to serve in the organization but who had been unable to turn up Wednesday night.’”³⁰

The next step for the Association was appointing a Board of Governors. There was no actual list of the members of the Board reported by the Sault Star, but we can safely assume that it included most or all of the persons named as officers and committee members. William Hogg was elected chairman; vice-chairmen were Lawrence Brown, Dr. J.M. Cameron and Wilf Massicotte; secretary was Ralph Derby; and treasurer was H.S. McLellan. A finance committee made up of E. Bruce Flemming, Simpson Hollingsworth, Dr. Alan Goodwin, I.A. Vannini and Robert Collins, was established. A membership committee composed of Don Nixon, Mr. J.L. Lang, Mrs. Mae Thompson, Dr. J.A. Nattress, Dr. L.B. Lukenda, Russ Ramsay Jr., Joe Pace, Jack Graham and J.H. Dann, was set up. An accommodation and property committee was composed of Harold Crowder, D. Genetti and Norman S. Currie. An education committee included Dr. Roger Dorland, Miss J.C. Irving, Mrs. B. Garshowitz, P.H. Sparling, Dr. J.M. Cameron, Angus McKay, Jim Laidlaw, Fred Mills, Rev. M. Mulcahy, and Mrs. Lowry Walsh. Finally, the earlier established constitution committee was reaffirmed with the addition of Wilf Massicotte. The Sault Star also reported that the Board of Governors approved the

²⁹ “Association Set up to Seek Community Junior College”, The Sault Daily Star, Feb. 18, 1960, front page.

³⁰ Ibid. This is interesting because later we will have occasion to note that when the legal incorporation took place later, in 1964, according to several members of that ‘Founders Club’, they were rather unceremoniously dumped by the new board and not consulted again. A one-page “Minutes of Meeting re Proposed Junior College”, dated February 17, 1960, says there were 65 people in attendance and they collected \$65 in membership fees.

addition of the following to “the board”: Dr. L.M. Gardiner to represent the Canadian Institute of Forestry; Lynn Miller of Bruce Mines, Mrs. Aird Hollingsworth, and Mrs. G. Graham. Lawrence Brown reported for the Constitution Committee that it had “secured copies of the constitution Carleton University, Lakehead College, and Corning, N.Y. Junior College”.³¹

The next step was the adoption of a constitution for “The Algoma Junior College Association”. This occurred on Wed., May 4, 1960. Its primary objectives were stated as:

- 1) to examine the feasibility of a junior college in the Sault; 2) to organize and establish a non-sectarian junior college; and 3) to encourage education beyond the secondary school level within the district.

The constitution also stipulated that the board of governors be restricted to not more than 40 members with 90% of them resident in the district of Algoma. At least 4 members must be from the district but outside the Sault, Korah and Tarentorus. It confirmed the previous committees and established another committee, a Co-ordinating committee, composed of Dr. J.M. Cameron, W.G.H. Bennett, Angus McKay, Don Machum, Lawrence Brown and Wilf Massicotte. The chairman of the constitution committee, Lawrence Brown, was reported as summing up his report by expressing his wish “. . . that all the members of the Board of Governors be active and that those who turn out to be ‘drones’ should be quickly replaced by persons who are interested and willing to work.”³²

³¹ All the above information is contained in “Plans Pushed: Board of Governors Picked for College”, The Sault Daily Star, March 9, 1960, second section, front page.

³² “Hammer out Details: Constitution is Adopted for New Junior College”, The Sault Daily Star, May 5, 1960, second section, front page. There exists a 4-page “Draft Constitution of Algoma Junior College Association”, dated April 1960, that contains sections on: name, objects, membership, board of governors, officers, committees, honorary board of governors, meetings, audit, dissolution, bylaws, and amendment. There also exist mimeographed copies of “Memorandum No. 1” for each of the following committees, all also dated April, 1960: Education Finance, Property, Membership and Publicity; and a list of “Responsibilities” of the Executive Committee. There is also a mimeographed copy of a one-page report of

Minutes of the May 4th, 1960, meeting of the “Algoma Junior College Association” confirm that the draft constitution, with some amendments, was adopted unanimously by the 30 people present. They also confirm that the members received copies of the “Memo # 1” of each of the committees listed in the footnote above.

On June 17th, 1960, a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Algoma Junior College Association was held. The minutes record mainly various housekeeping kinds of recommendations for mainly the Education Committee. Several of these are interesting:

4. The Vice Chairman of the Education Committee (in the absence of the Chairman) is asked to get in touch with the Presidents of the Universities to which it is hoped our Junior College will send students, to obtain their attitude towards the acceptance of our students into their second (or third) year in 1962 or 1963 at the earliest. The Education Committee was urged to keep its standards – of admission and of achievement in the Junior College – at least as high as that of the University to which it hopes to send its students.

The Education Committee is also asked to write to the Canada Council to inquire about its participation in the establishment of Junior Colleges. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics is to be asked for information regarding Junior Colleges which may be of value to us in our plans.

The Education Committee will also seek information from Lakehead Junior College which will be a guide to our Board.

In the meantime two surveys had been conducted by the Board at their January and February meetings, and by the Education Committee in early May, 1960. The first survey basically outlined the proposed programmes, both university and technical³³, that the Junior College would offer, and the Universities that would accept its students after the first (or second) year, and then asked for names and grades of children in the family, and would they enroll in the local Junior College. This survey received 277 replies from

the Finance Committee, from this time, which contains a “list of information which the Committee feels will be required to conduct a building fund campaign”, and other comments about the current local fundraising climate.

³³ This was a very ambitious listing of programmes for a “Junior” College. In the university division it listed first year (or first and second year) in General Arts, Applied Science, Commerce, Dentistry, Forestry, Forest Engineering, Household Science, and Pharmacy. In the technological division it would offer “the first year course common to ten different technologies”: Aeronautic, Chemical, Civil, Electrical, Electronic, Gas, Instrument, Mechanical, Metallurgical, and Medical Laboratory.

parents with students from grades 5 and under to grade 12. The indication of what areas the grade 9 to 12 students would pursue— a total of 97, of which only 10 were in the technology division – ranged over the entire spectrum proposed. The second survey was more succinct, was aimed at only grade 11 students, and simply asked three questions: “1. Do you intend that your son or daughter continue to higher education after finishing secondary school if at all possible? 2. If so, in what field? 3. If the first year of such field was offered at a Junior College in Sault Ste. Marie would he or she take that year here rather than go away to school?” On this second questionnaire 298 replies were received. Of these, 230 (77.72%) indicated they would go on to further education. Of these, 143 (62.2% of the 230) indicated they would take university programmes. Of these, 122 (85.3% of the 143) indicated that they would go locally if the programme was available.³⁴

Meanwhile the membership drive was continued, but otherwise nothing much apparently happened publicly until the following March 15. At that meeting a “Not Yet” policy was adopted, i.e., that there was no immediate need to proceed with the junior college idea. After all the enthusiasm of the previous months and years, this seemed like a sudden and uncharacteristic reversal. The education committee reported that there was no known case of a Sault student being denied university entrance because of a shortage of space at Ontario universities, and that there was no evidence of a lack of such spaces developing between 1961 and 1964. An “expert” was to be employed to document forecast figures, and if shortages are predicted for 1965 then the Association could re-launch its plans starting in 1962. The Chairman, William Hogg was quoted as saying “We are obligated to show need and we have not been able to do that yet”. The finance

³⁴ Undated, but from the context it would have had to be sometime after May, 1960, report, “Results of Survey of Junior College Student Potential”, with the questionnaires and the results included as appendices.

committee also reported that there was no need to start collecting capital funds at present either. The membership drive was to continue “. . . to spread interest in an Algoma Junior College wider”. The officers and committee chairs were re-instated.³⁵ But it seemed that things were to be in a holding pattern until a need could be demonstrated. A bit of a flurry occurred immediately after this report in the Star. Some members of the Association criticized the Star report for emphasizing the negative “Not Yet” part, and not emphasizing enough the positive aspect of maintaining the membership drive and keeping the idea alive for future development when circumstances are more favourable.³⁶ The Star responded several days later defending the earlier reporting.

However, within seven months this “Not Yet” policy was reversed again. The Chairman, William Hogg, in addressing Sir James Dunn students reaffirmed the need for a junior college in the Sault. The reasons he gave included: lower tuition and other expenses; more personal attention to students than at larger universities; undecided students’ ability to try out areas before expensive commitment to an unsuitable course of studies; ability for students to take not only academic but also technical and business courses. He also said that universities were having increasing difficulty in coping with the numbers of applicants; enrolments in universities across Canada were up by 10% over the previous year. It’s not clear where these statistics came from, but they seem to be a complete reversal of the claims made seven months previously in the “Not Yet” meeting. Mr. Hogg also reported that membership in the Association had reached 750. He said that Mr. John Stubbs “. . . will spend as much time as he possibly can this fall talking to

³⁵ “Plans for Future: No Immediate Need Seen for Sault Junior College”, The Sault Daily Star, March 16, 1961, second section, front page.

³⁶ “Collegiate Home and School: Newspaper College Report Criticized”, The Sault Daily Star, March 21, 1961, p. 14.

educators, university authorities, government and civic leaders and local groups. . . . His findings will guide us in the course to be followed.”³⁷ So it seemed the holding pattern was lifted and drive toward implementation would re-commence.

A meeting of the executive committee the following February 16 had the Chairman indicate expected expenditures over the next three years. 1963 and 1964 would have estimated annual expenditures of \$60,000 to cover salaries for a principal, a librarian, two secretaries and initial library investment. 1965 would require an estimated \$175,000 for a full time staff plus capital equipment for laboratories. Initial accommodations would be rented, but the estimated cost of eventual new facilities would be \$450,000. The upcoming annual Association meeting would receive Mr. Stubbs report of his findings. The membership drive was continuing.³⁸

Mr. Stubbs’ report, undated, was five pages long, plus a statistical page which was dated January 25, 1962. The report reiterated the proposed programme of the proposed Junior College, with both university and technology divisions, but now also including a “special or extension” division for “evening classes and Saturday classes for employed persons”. It said the plan was “very similar to the offerings of Lakehead College of arts, Science & Technology”. The methodology of the survey was described as follows:

The[se] results were obtained by means of a letter-questionnaire distributed and collected by the secondary schools after an address on the subject by the survey co-ordinator to the students now enrolled in Grades 9, 10, and 11. The results were tabulated as “yes” or “no” answers from parents who were interested in the future enrolment of their sons or daughters in any of the proposed course offerings in such a college.

The total number of “yes” answers were reduced by principals of 12 schools to “prospective yes” (P/YES) numbers. This was done by the use of

³⁷ “Industrial Leader Sees Definite Need for Establishing Sault Junior College”, The Sault Daily Star, Oct. 19, 1961, front page and continued on page 2.

³⁸ “Expenses Estimated for Junior College”, The Sault Daily Star, February 26, 1962, second section, front page.

factors which, in the light of experience over the years, give a more realistic figure. This figure is the estimate of the number of students who will actually graduate and proceed to further education. Our efforts have been directed constantly toward estimates of numbers on the low side to avoid any possibility of over-stating the case.

The report then goes on to say that it will subtract a 20% “depletion” amount from these “P/YES” numbers, since they could expect further erosion by the time the students reach secondary school graduation. It then goes on to give the important summarized P/YES minus 20% numbers, from the statistical page, of the results from the 12 high schools surveyed – six Sault schools and 6 regional ones including St. Joseph Island, Bruce Mines, Blind River, Elliot Lake, Thessalon, and Michipicoten:

. . . we have a sound potential of 340 students now enrolled in Grade 9, 275 students now enrolled in grade 10, and 190 students now enrolled in grade 11. Recently acquired information indicates that we cannot be ready to open a college here before 1965. Preparations will require at least all of the intervening time. Taking into consideration the grades in which the students are enrolled now, the Grade 9 students will be ready for admission to the Technology Division in 1965 and to the University Division in 1966. The Grade 10 students will be ready for admission to the Technology Division in 1964 and the University Division in 1965. We should, then, aim at the accommodation of the needs of the present Grade 10 students in the University Division in 1965 and the present Grade 9 students in the Technology Division in 1965. Those students of the 275 now in Grade 10 who are university course prospects plus those of the 340 now in Grade 9 who are technology course prospects, will constitute the potential enrolment in September, 1965.

FROM THIS WE CAN CONCLUDE (1) THAT THE POTENTIAL ENROLMENT IS QUITE ADEQUATE FOR SEPTEMBER, 1965, AND (2) THAT THE NEED FOR THEIR ACCOMODATION WILL BE ACUTE BY THAT DATE.

The report then goes on to list 5 advantages to students by attending a local college: assured accommodation, better prospects for admission in face of rising entrance requirements by other institutions, savings of “about \$1000”, more individual instruction, counseling and assistance, and more of the local students able to go to college. The college would also bring cultural and economic assets to the community. The report says

the co-ordinator spent several days at Lakehead informing himself of the history and development of their institution, and that he visited Peterborough (Trent), Ottawa (Carleton), Kingston (Queens), Toronto (York and Toronto), Hamilton (McMaster), Waterloo (Waterloo), and Windsor (Assumption) to obtain information and advice on the “procedures for the transfer of our students to their colleges” and a request for “advisors” from each of these universities.

The report then said that an “informal approach” to the Minister of Education, Premier John Robarts, indicated that if the Sault and Algoma citizens “clearly indicated community support for such a college, with tangible evidence of local ability to establish and start it financially, then no Ontario government could refuse to grant it a charter”. A meeting was being requested with the Ontario University Affairs Committee in mid-April to “ascertain what further steps are necessary in order to proceed toward an opening date of September, 1965, and to ask what requirements will have to be fulfilled before seeking a charter from the Ontario Legislature”. . . . “Five thousand (one dollar) memberships in the Algoma College Association are being sought . . . to prove community support for the project.”³⁹

On March 22 the Association presented a Brief before City Council, saying this was no “chance meeting” but “a vital one in a planned step by step programme to establish a college in this community”. It went on to say, “This is not the proposal of a group of starry-eyed visionaries. It is rather down to earth planning of a group representing a great host of people who are mindful of a growing need for educational opportunities for our youth and adults”. It went on to discuss the importance of providing

³⁹ From, “Algoma College Association Brief”, submitted by John T. Stubbs, Co-ordinator, Algoma College Association, undated, but from the context, would have been sometime before mid-March, 1962.

better education and the difficulties local youths have in pursuing that. "We must provide a local means through which our children can receive a college foot-hold with modest cost to parents". It then referred to Mr. Stubbs' report, copies of which were given to Council members, and which was then apparently read by Mr. Stubbs. The brief then proceeds:

You will have noted from Mr. Stubbs' report that it is our intention to approach the Ontario University Affairs Committee as soon as possible. Recent correspondence between the Honourable John P. Pobarts and ourselves encourages us to do so. This recent exchange of letters with the Premier and Minister of Education refers to the desire of the College Association to rent, for two years, space in the proposed Trade School.

We have been informed that this will not be possible. Premier Robarts' letter says in part, and I quote, "However, I am sure that you will understand that in planning such a building we can scarcely include class room laboratories and other accommodation areas which would not be required for our purposes. I suggest, therefore, that you consider other possibilities with respect to the provision of accommodations."

There appears to be little likelihood that we will be able to rent suitable accommodations anywhere so we must construct a building. Fortunately, the Association has the assurance of a suitable site for a college.

Prior to meeting with the University Affairs Committee we must be certain that we shall be able to meet its anticipated requirements as follows:

- (1) The enrolment to justify a college.
- (2) The written evidence of financial support from the Municipal Council.
- (3) We intend to reinforce this with evidence of industrial and other local support. We have a voluntary membership now of 700. We shall obtain at least 5000. Our survey confirms that we will have an adequate enrolment. We have the support of industry which will be translated into dollars. We anticipate that general business, professional people and other groups will support this undertaking.

These assurances of support, together with that of City Council, will enable us to go to the University Affairs Committee and the Ontario Department of Education with a request for a Charter and a Government grant. We respectfully suggest that City Council grant the equivalent of one mill per year on the municipal assessment to begin in 1963 and to continue for 3 years or until such time as other sources such as the Department of Education begin to contribute in large measure to the establishment and support of the proposed college; following this to provide an annual grant of \$25,000 to assist in the operating expenses. . .

With the assurance of a grant from the Municipality and financial support from industry, business, professional people and local groups, the College

Association is certain that the University Affairs Advisory Committee will give approval to the establishment of the Algoma College.⁴⁰

A Sault Star announcement of the annual meeting, to take place the next day, March 28, indicated that the membership drive was to be accelerated to try to get a total membership of 5,000, up from the current 700. It also announced that Mayor Jim McIntyre said that City Council had agreed to give consideration to a request for \$450,000 split over a three year period amounting to one mill on the tax rate each of the three years. Also “. . . association officials stressed that four things were necessary before an approach could be made to the University Affairs Committee with a proposal. The essential items are: potential enrolment, proposed curriculum, promise of money, and local interest; this latter shown by membership in the association.”⁴¹

The Association annual meeting on March 28, 1962, was told they must start preparations now for a 1965 target opening date for the junior college. Sinclair Farm was confirmed as being the site for the future institution. Members agreed to drop “Junior” from the title and constitution of the association “. . . because the absence would make an easier transition from Algoma College to the University of Algoma”. The Chairman confirmed the request to City Hall for \$450,000 for capital costs. Mr. Stubbs reiterated the proposed curriculum: first year university courses in arts, science, engineering, forestry, forest engineering, dentistry, medicine, commerce, pharmacy and household science. He claimed that they wouldn’t have to offer a multitude of options because he had discovered “. . . a common pattern of subjects offered in first and second years in Ontario universities”. He “. . . described how a first year arts course is similar to the first

⁴⁰ From, “Algoma College Association Municipal Council Brief March 22, 1962”. Copies of the correspondence between the Association and the Premier referred to in this Brief have not been found.

⁴¹ “New Members Sought: Meeting to Plan Junior College Drive”, The Sault Daily Star, March 27, 1962, second section, front page.

year in a pre-medicine course and added how the similarity existed in technology courses to be offered at Algoma College . . .” The library needs to be started now with an initial cost of \$50,000 and \$10,000 in each subsequent year. The executive and committee chairs were re-instated. The membership drive was to be strengthened with emphasis on five general categories: secondary school parents, public school home and school associations, labor unions, parent-teacher associations and general business. Mr. Hogg reported they expected to hear from Toronto when a meeting with the Ontario University Affairs Committee will take place. Lawrence Brown is reported to have remarked that it was “. . . astonishing that only a year ago it did not look as if we would be in the situation we are today”. And the Chairman concluded the meeting with “We are entering this year on a very high note of optimism”.⁴²

The actual minutes of this meeting are brief and cryptic, referring mainly to 7 appendices for the content. Appendices #5 and #7 were Mr. Stubbs’ report and the Brief to City Council, both discussed above. Appendix #3, a report from the Co-ordinating Committee, recommended three names for vice chairmen, one for each of secretary and treasurer and a chairman for each of the five committees; it also proposed a slate of 20 prominent citizens for an “Honorary Board of Governors”. Appendix #6 proposed Mr. William Hogg for Chairman of the Board of Governors, and a list of 46 persons for possible members of a Board of Governors. The remaining appendices, #'s 1, 2 and 4, were from the Education and Accommodation Committees, and from the Treasurer, respectively. The Education Committee’s appendix said its main work so far had been the Stubbs’ survey, but it had also begun to consider the course of studies to be offered and

⁴² “Sinclair Farm Named College Site With 1965 as target for Opening”, The Sault Daily Star, March 29, 1962, front page and continued on page 2.

the fees to be charged. The Accommodation Committee appendix said it had considered, but rejected, the Armoury as a possible source of accommodation. It also considered “co-operation with the anticipated Trade School”, which it considered the “most economical facilities” at least for the early years.⁴³ But it also discussed the possibility of a series of new buildings to including accommodations for a library, 5 classrooms, 3 labs, 7-8 private offices, 5 seminar rooms, general administrative area, lounge, cafeteria and general meeting room, washrooms and mechanical/utility space, for a total estimated cost of \$450,000. The Treasurer’s financial statement for March 2, 1960 to March 27, 1962, indicated that \$702.00 had been collected in membership fees, that Mr. Stubbs expenses were \$694.89, and a bank charge of \$0.95, making up total expenditures of \$695.84. That left a balance of “cash in bank” of \$6.16.⁴⁴

The following week a lengthy editorial in the Star reiterated most of the details from the annual meeting summarized above, and gave a very strong endorsement to the venture. It said Stubbs’ survey showed a potential enrolment of more than 2,000 students. Summarizing the expected costs as given at the general meeting, the editorial commented:

All of these costs will not be borne by the local taxpayer, although he must pay the initial shot to get it started. Once the College is established, however, and the Ontario University Affairs committee can see that there is both need and strong community interest, financial assistance is expected to be forthcoming in substantial form from both provincial and federal governments.⁴⁵

Reading this some forty years later, and with the advantage of the hindsight over the intervening years, one can only marvel at the optimism, but also the naiveté of these

⁴³ This “anticipated Trade School” would have been what was to become the Ontario Vocational Centre (OVC) on Northern Avenue, and eventually Sault College.

⁴⁴ From, Minutes, and appendices, of the meeting of March 28, 1962, of the Algoma College Association.

⁴⁵ “Junior College is Worthwhile Venture”, The Sault Daily Star, April 5, 1962, editorial, page 6.

pioneers. Later that April, City Council granted the Association \$78,028 (this amount comprised a half mill on the tax roll) and promised further support in years 1963 and 1964, as well as an annual grant of \$25,000 for operating costs after the initial three years. Outlying townships Korah and Tarentorous agreed to contribute \$21,000 each.⁴⁶ Still this was a far cry from the \$450,000 asked for by the Association for capital costs.

By October of that year less than half of the target membership of 5,000 was reached, “. . . much to the disappointment of the Algoma College Association”. The Star editorial also reported that “Despite four membership drives and contacts with thousands of residents in all walks of life, only 2,100 have responded to the appeal with the one dollar membership fee”. It stressed that it wasn’t the \$1 membership fee that was important, but the numbers of subscribers. It concluded with:

Ontario Premier John Robarts told local officials that “no government could afford to turn us down” with a membership of 5,000 citizens.

This clearly indicates that the onus is on the citizens of the area to prove their interest and build their much-needed college.⁴⁷

On March 28, 1963, a delegation from the Association, composed of Messrs. Hogg, Brown, Stubbs and Derby, met in Toronto with the Advisory Committee on University Affairs. The Sault delegation presented a brief which outlined the need for a college; the extent of local support, including monies and land granted; an outline of a possible curriculum; an indication of potential enrolment; and the need for financial

⁴⁶ “College Bid Supported: College Grant, Deficits Help Increase Tax Bill”, The Sault Daily Star, April 18, 1968, front page.

⁴⁷ “College Idea Needs General Support”, The Sault Daily Star, October 4, 1962, editorial, page 6. There is no indication of when Robarts supposedly said this, but there is some confirmation for it in the minutes of a meeting of the Committee on University Affairs, Dec. 18, 1962, which includes the following note: “Chalmers read section of letter quoting Robarts saying they could have charter – if there is local support. They’ve had encouragement”. It is clear that the Committee was not in favour of anything for the Sault. The same minutes, earlier, record: “Tell him (Bill Hogg) that this is the policy. Nothing for North Bay and no intention to do anything in Sault”.

assistance from government for capital and operating.⁴⁸ The meeting ranged through a wide variety of issues, including: why did Western stop its extension courses, and did the Sault try to have another university offer such?; the relative merits and demerits of a junior college; comparing Sudbury's having secured \$3million from two local industries vs. the Sault refraining from asking industry for capital costs; the Ryerson vs. the Waterloo co-operative approaches; the need in the Sault for technicians; the Sault's future expectations for moving beyond just a one year junior college (the Sault delegates said they didn't expect this would happen before 5 – 8 years); the need to affiliate with an existing university; the fact that the Ministry is reluctant to give any encouragement to any community for having their own universities because then many others will want one; how many Ontario grade XII and XIII grads go to Michigan College of Mining and Technology; amounts of start-up capital and operating monies needed from government and what amounts could be raised locally. Very prominently, several times during the meeting it was stressed by several different Committee members, but especially and repeatedly by Leslie Frost, that the Sault people would have to obtain affiliation with an established university. They said which university to partner with was up to the Sault's choice - “. . .work out with university of choice if they('ll) have you” - but they hinted strongly and repeatedly that it should be Laurentian.⁴⁹ The Sault delegates seemed to feel that the meeting went well for their cause, however, within a few weeks the Advisory Committee formally stipulated that a future Algoma College would have to obtain an

⁴⁸ “Algoma College Sought”, The Sault Daily Star, March 27, 1963, front page.

⁴⁹ The author received from Ms. Inch a typed document, barely coherent, which was identified as a transcript of handwritten, almost illegible, minutes of this meeting. There is no indication of who took these minutes; the assumption is that it was one of the Sault delegates to the meeting. The immediately above is the author's best attempt at deciphering this document.

affiliation with an established Ontario University.⁵⁰ The Association membership interpreted this as an attempt to block the development of the college. But it wasn't as though they hadn't been forewarned about this, as indicated earlier; rather, they had just naively assumed that they could get a free-standing charter and wouldn't need an affiliation.

In the meanwhile the Sault City Council, in their 1963 budget renewed the half mil, amounting to \$81,105, support for the Algoma College Association. So with the previous year's set-aside the city had over \$159,000 pledged for the college.⁵¹

The next two years involved approaches to various universities for affiliation; meetings with University Affairs officials; appeals for assistance from the local MPP and Attorney General, Arthur Wishart⁵²; application for incorporation; relating to the start-up of the CAATs; dealing with renewed appeals to undertake a feasibility study for an "International" university; and attempts to arrange local accommodation for the future college.

On the first of these – pursuit of an affiliation arrangement with an established university – what little documentation exists seems to point to the fact that Mr. Stubbs was the lead man. He apparently approached many, if not all, established southern

⁵⁰ "Algoma College Strikes Another Delaying Snag", The Sault Daily Star, April 11, 1963, front page.

⁵¹ "\$160,000 Budgeted for Junior College by Sault Council", The Sault Daily Star, April 6, 1963, p.17.

⁵² "Wishart Asks MPPs For College at Sault" The Sault Daily Star, Feb. 12, 1964, front page. And "Wishart Boosts Sault Area in Speech to Legislature", The Sault Daily Star, Feb. 13, 1964, p. 17. In a memorandum of an interview with Ben Wilson, Deputy Minister of Colleges and Universities, April 26, 1976, for the Royal Commission, we read the following: "When I suggested that it might have been a large "P" rather than a small "p" political consideration that dictated Algoma's development, Wilson said that any party would have to respond to the community pressure for a university in Sault Ste. Marie. Referring to Arthur Wishart in particular, Wilson said Wishart had alienated many of his colleagues by his numerous direct appeals for aid to AUC and that in fact general annoyance with Wishart and Lawrence Brown probably retarded Algoma's development rather than advanced it." This judgment, in the author's opinion was uncalled for; we will have many opportunities ahead to show AUC's indebtedness to these men. Indeed, at the end of this same memorandum we read: "Wilson said that he had been warned not to underestimate the clout of Lawrence Brown. He feels that Algoma's development is due mainly to Brown's persistence as well as local dollars and strong community roots."

Ontario universities, asking them for affiliation. Apparently Western and Queens were the most preferred by the Association. Western with its history of servicing the area with extension courses would have been the natural fit; many local students, especially teachers, would already have had Western credits accumulated. However, all the universities turned the Association down. Eventually, apparently through the influence of former Premier Leslie Frost, the newly founded (1960) Laurentian University of Sudbury was to be the affiliation partner.⁵³ After the fact, at a board meeting, when a member of the Association asked whether they shouldn't rather have sought an affiliation with a southern university, Lawrence Brown answered:

The board of governors of the Algoma College Association approached both the University of Western Ontario and Waterloo University on this matter. . . He added that while the University of Western Ontario was polite in turning down the association's request, Waterloo University was "very rude".⁵⁴

After months of negotiation, the actual affiliation agreement document was formally signed by President Stanley C. Mullins and Dr. H. Bennett of Laurentian University, and Lawrence Brown and H.G. MacAdam, as chairman and secretary respectively of the Algoma College Association on Dec. 17, 1965.⁵⁵ The document first describes the origins and current status of the two parties to the agreement, and then lists,

⁵³ In a memorandum of a meeting at the law office of Terence Murphy on May 12, 1976, during the Royal Commission Enquiry, attended by Ralph Derby, John Stubbs, Terence Murphy and A.T.K, the following is recorded in paragraph number 3, p. 2: "It was communicated to the members of the association during this time by Mr. Frost that the Ministry of Education would only approve a college in Sault Ste. Marie if it were affiliated with another university. At this point Mr. Stubbs stated that 'the unseen hand of Leslie Frost' preceded him on his trips to every other university and it became patently clear to Mr. Stubbs and the others that the only college to which they would be allowed to affiliate was Laurentian University."

⁵⁴ "College Official Slams Legislature, University", The Sault Daily Star, April 6, 1965, second section, front page. Sault Star reports dealing mainly with other issues, later in 1966, presumably based on information from Association members, incidentally say that negotiations with Western were positive as regards affiliation, but that the province turned that down. See "College Need Quashes Idea of University", Jan. 15, 1966; and "Site Indecision Delays College", April 14, 1966.

⁵⁵ "Algoma College Affiliation With Laurentian Approved", The Sault Daily Star, Nov. 20, 1965, second section. "Algoma College Takes Big Step", The Sault Daily Star, Dec. 17, 1965, front page. "Compare Tie of Colleges to Marriage", The Sault Daily Star, Dec. 18, 1965, second section.

first, in 12 clauses, the commitments of Laurentian; then, in 9 clauses, those of Algoma College. The University's commitments included accepting Algoma students for degree programmes; delivering degrees and transcripts; accepting the college Principal as a member of their Faculty Council and Senate; to submit college budget to the Ministry and remit to Algoma any capital and operating monies from the Ministry; to assist the college in recruiting academic and administrative staff; and, controversially, clause #3:

To establish an inspection system with a view to ensuring that uniformity of standards is maintained. To this end, an authorized representative of the University designated by the President or the Dean shall visit the College, from time to time as required, to verify that the curriculum is being followed, the instruction satisfactorily given and the examinations conducted in accordance with the requirements of the University. He will report to the President of the University on his findings.

The college's commitments included complying generally with University instructions; to keep, and supply the University Registrar, with lists of students and their programmes; to forward lists of applicants for degrees; to comply with decisions of the University senate; to maintain a qualified staff of academic instructors and library staff; to pay expenses incurred by the University on behalf of the college; and, controversially, clause #2: "To conduct examinations as the University shall direct. Unless otherwise provided by the Senate, the University will set the examination questions and will mark the papers under the supervision of the Senate". It must be noted that the two clauses characterized here as 'controversial', to Laurentian's credit, were never really enforced by them; but the very fact of their existence signaled a superior/subordinate relationship and attitude.

The Laurentian affiliation didn't sit well not only with local association members, but with subsequent external critics. D.M. Cameron criticized the affiliation arrangement

of Laurentian and its three affiliates in Sudbury, North Bay and Hearst, for being a facile importation of a southern concept to the northern context where it was totally inappropriate.⁵⁶

Dr. Ken McLarty made the following pertinent comments about the Laurentian affiliations:

Implicit in the concept of affiliation is the idea of mature parental direction offered by a senior established institution to an emergent institution. For example, the University of Western Ontario provided this senior function during the emergence of the present University of Windsor and University of Waterloo.

In Northern Ontario . . . the process of affiliation was applied with senior-partner status bestowed upon an institution in its own emergent phase and subject to its own peculiar growing pains.⁵⁷

McLarty's point was well taken; Laurentian itself, as the affiliation document itself attests, had only been founded five years before, in 1960; and was subsequently amended to allow for affiliations. So, it was itself an emerging institution, and, moreover, was a competitor for students in Northeastern Ontario. Ministry officials themselves, during a discussion of North Bay and Sault institutions possibly affiliating with Laurentian "expressed some concerns that Laurentian (was) not ready to take on any responsibilities of this kind".⁵⁸ Also, during the March 28, 1963 meeting with the Sault delegation, referred to above, recognition was made of the "rivalry among northern communities", specifically between the Sault and Sudbury and North Bay and Sudbury.⁵⁹

The most detailed and devastating critique of the affiliation agreement came in a 39 page "Confidential Report" by H.A. Stevenson from London, Ontario, delivered in

⁵⁶ D.M. Cameron, The Northern Dilemma: Public Policy and Post-Secondary Education in Northern Ontario, pp. 14-15.

⁵⁷ James Kenneth McLarty, Organization of Higher Education for Improved Access-Equity and Spacial Justice in Primary Resource Regions: The Case of Northern Ontario, Canada, pp. 39-40.

⁵⁸ Notes on a meeting of the Committee on University Affairs, Dec. 18, 1962.

⁵⁹ See footnote #49 above.

May 1968, to the Algoma College Association in May, 1968. This was after the first disastrous year of operation, and was presumably commissioned by the Algoma College Board. The first 20 pages were a critique of the affiliation agreement, while the latter 19 were an analysis and critique of a brief by Laurentian President, Mullins on the situation at Algoma College after its first year of operation. Here we will deal only with the critique of the affiliation agreement.

It is impossible to provide all the details of Stevenson's critique. His overall, general, repeated point was that the agreement was much too one-sided; all the clout was with Laurentian. He believed this limited what Algoma could do to adjust to local conditions in the present, but more importantly in the future in terms of any reasonable independent development. He believed that many of the clauses were demeaning to potential faculty and administrators at Algoma, and contravened basic academic freedom and widely recognized university conventions and practices. His most trenchant criticism was for the "controversial" clause #3 reproduced above. He didn't object to the general idea of the need for supervision, but felt that the kind and method of supervision stipulated by that clause was unacceptable. The supervision should be more collegial and done locally by senior faculty, department heads or the Principal. We get a sense of the flavour of his critique by the following opening paragraph of his comment on clause #3:

This clause represents a blatant contravention of any elementary understanding of academic freedom for teaching faculty. As such, it makes it untenable for any reliable academic who has any respect for his professional standing, individual ability and academic discipline to accept employment as a member of the faculty of Algoma College. This clause alone, if it were generally known, and I suspect it is not, would make it impossible for any officer of the college to attract reliable intellectuals to the faculty. Further, it could be responsible for the loss of all worthwhile faculty members presently employed by the College. Similarly, no administrative officer of Algoma College who has any knowledge of and respect for normal freedom in academic communities in conscience could be a party to

the administration of this clause. It is difficult to understand why and how this clause was acceptable to experienced university authorities at Laurentian University.⁶⁰

Stevenson also criticized clause #2 of the College's commitment cited above; if the University Senate, under this clause, delegated the conduct of exams to Algoma faculty and administrators, he didn't have a problem. But the clause, taken literally, was not acceptable. He had less serious criticisms of many other clauses, and also felt that there were important omissions in the agreement. Among these latter were: no allowance for periodic review and adjustment; no specification of any financial responsibility on Laurentian's part to assist Algoma during its formative years; no allowance for direct contact, without the Laurentian intermediary role, between Algoma and government.

In the author's opinion, the original affiliation agreement was more draconian in its text than in its implementation by Laurentian, so Stevenson's criticisms were rather 'academic'. In any case, in 35 years as a faculty member at AUC, the author never saw or heard of his critique, until just recently while researching this history. What it may have contributed to the attitudinal relationships between Board members at the time who were privy to it, and Laurentian, is open to speculation. We will see later that certain Algoma Board members were soon critical of Laurentian and advocated independence.

We need to go back now to 1964 and examine the issue of the Algoma College Association's incorporation as a legal entity. There is very little documentation available on the circumstances that lead up to this. The claim by former early members of the Association, that this was done rather clandestinely by the small number of executive members, who then, having become a legal entity, basically dispensed with the wider

⁶⁰ H.A. Stevenson, Confidential Report to the Algoma College Association on the Affiliation Agreement Between Algoma College and Laurentian University (1965), London, Ontario, May 1968, p.4.

membership, and simply re-nominated each other annually, has been made consistently over the years and surfaced also at the Royal Commission in 1976.⁶¹ Be that as it may, the facts concerning incorporation are as follows: On October 23, 1964, the Algoma College Association was incorporated by Letters Patent as a corporation “without share capital”, in the Province of Ontario, “for the following objects: To organize and establish a non-sectarian college in the District of Algoma; to encourage education beyond the secondary school level in the said District of Algoma; to accept donations, gifts, legacies and bequests.” The head office of the new corporation was to be in the city of Sault Ste. Marie. The first directors were listed in the incorporation document as: Donald Alexander Machum, Lawrence Brown, William MacDougal Hogg, John Thompson Stubbs and Ralph Smythe Derby. It allowed also for “any others who become members of the Corporation”.

The corporation formally carried out the first of its above-mentioned purposes at a meeting of the Board of Directors on October 22, 1965, when they “. . . did establish at the City of Sault Ste. Marie, in the District of Algoma, a non-sectarian college, to be known as Algoma College, and did authorize the affiliation of Algoma College with

⁶¹ Over the years this was often verbally conveyed to the author by former Association members, Dr. L Gardiner and Dr. A. Gordon. The claim of this having been a rather secretive move is perhaps supported by the fact that the only public report of the incorporation was in a Dec.1, 1964, weirdly captioned, Sault Daily Star article, “At Queen’s Park: Algoma College Chances Better”, way back on page 11, which didn’t even get the date of incorporation right. It said the incorporation occurred “last week”, which would have put it during the last week of November, when, in fact, the event occurred on October 23, 1964. Further possible confirmation of the complaint by Gardiner and Gordon mentioned above, is found in the memorandum, previously mentioned in footnote # 47 above, a deposition of various former Board members during the Royal Commission, wherein the issue of the reduction of the association’s membership at the time of the incorporation was discussed. In numbered paragraph 6 of that memo we read: “The drive for annual membership was not continued after Letters Patent were issued. Mr. Derby explained these annual memberships as a donation to defray expenses. He was quite sure that no notices were sent to the then existing members of the association after Letters Patent but was fairly certain that a public notice of an annual meeting was published in a local newspaper.”

Laurentian University of Sudbury.”⁶² The minutes of that October 22 meeting record the following resolution:

- 1) That the Corporation establish at the City of Sault Ste. Marie in the District of Algoma a non-sectarian college, to be known as Algoma College, for instruction in the arts, humanities and sciences.
- 2) That Algoma College seek affiliation with Laurentian University of Sudbury to the end that the courses of instruction offered by Algoma College will be accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a degree under the same academic terms and conditions as would obtain if the instruction were given in University College of Laurentian University of Sudbury.
- 3) That the proper officers of the corporation be and they are hereby authorized to make the necessary arrangements for the establishment of Algoma College and its affiliation with Laurentian University of Sudbury including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the carrying on of any necessary negotiations with the Department of University Affairs or other governmental bodies, the recruitment of necessary staff for Algoma College and the obtaining of premises in which Algoma College may commence operations.⁶³

The incorporation having been accomplished, the original 5 directors expanded the Board of Directors. The author could not find documentation on who were immediately added; but, it is safe to assume, on the basis of later lists, that many of the names that have surfaced earlier in this study, who were on committees of the earlier association, were likely included.

The Board presumably went about implementing the various tasks it had set itself in the above resolution. The obtaining of affiliation we have already dealt with. But the carrying out of these tasks was not without distractions and complications.

One of these distractions was that already on Jan. 21, 1965, Dr. Raymond L. Smith, President of Michigan Technological University of Houghton (with a branch in Sault, Michigan, which eventually became Lake Superior State College) proposed that the twin Sault cities consider setting up an International University. Apparently

⁶² Taken from the first page of the affiliation agreement dated Dec. 17, 1965.

⁶³ Minutes of Board of Directors of the Algoma College Association, October 22, 1965, pp.9-10.

supporters of the concept on the Ontario side, had even raised the issue in the Ontario legislature where Donald C. MacDonald, NDP leader asked whether the Department of University Affairs had given any consideration to Dr. Smith's proposal. Education Minister Bill Davis was reported to have said the logical group to consider such an idea was the Algoma College Association, and if the Association believed there was merit in the idea, the Department of University affairs will offer any assistance to determine the desirability of the idea. Bill Hogg, Chairman of the Association, understandably responded that the Association's priority, after all their work over the past years, and given that it was about to come to fruition, was to see the establishment of Algoma College, and that they had not discussed the idea with Dr. Smith.⁶⁴ This seemed to have put the idea of an International University to bed, for the time being at least, but it arose again almost exactly a year later, stimulated by an editorial in a Detroit newspaper in mid-December, 1965, and this time with more vehemence and stronger proponents.

Arthur Wishart, Sault MPP and Attorney General, was reported by Canadian Press to have asked in the legislature for the Algoma College Association to look into the international university proposal. This was supposedly supported by Bill Davis. Locally the idea was being championed by Dr. Al Gordon, research scientist and a member of the association. The Association executive once again responded in the same way they had responded a year earlier. Lawrence Brown, by this time having taken over the chair from Bill Hogg, responded: "The idea has merit and is unique. However, our first priority must be the establishment of Algoma College." Mr. Hogg commented, "When Algoma College is established and operating here, this would be the proper time to go into the

⁶⁴ "Algoma College Need Nips University Plans", The Sault Daily Star, Feb. 3, 1965, p.21.

international aspects.”⁶⁵ But the idea didn’t go away; Dr. Kenneth Shouldice, the vice-president of Michigan Technological University and future president of Lake Superior State College, got on the International University bandwagon. Al Gordon continued to push it, and Sault Ontario mayor, Alec Harry supported it but qualified his support by saying it could not delay the start of Algoma College, now projected to open in the fall of 1967. It is interesting that the Michigan proponents thought it should be centered in Michigan, on the campus of the Sault branch of Michigan Technological University.

He (Smith) suggested that the Sault branch of MTU could be the base of a school of higher learning that would eventually encompass both border cities.

He proposed the international school as a means of fostering friendly relations between the two countries and solving the eventual problem of financing created by Canadians in the state-supported MTU, who are not included in the calculation of grants.⁶⁶

To this author, having watched LSSC/LSSU’s predatory practices over 35 years, it is interesting to see how at this very beginning their self-interests were barely disguised under their ‘international co-operation’ rhetoric.⁶⁷

Despite the renewed appeals, the Algoma College Association, rightly, stuck to their guns. They pointed out that after 5 years of frustration and fighting red tape, in the single Ontario jurisdiction, and being finally on the brink of victory, they would not delay to study a concept involving 4 very disparate jurisdictions – both federal ones and the state and provincial ones. Ralph Derby put the argument in an interesting analogy:

⁶⁵ “College Body Rejects Study of University”, *The Sault Daily Star*, Jan. 6, 1966, second section, p. 13.

⁶⁶ “Mayor Likes Border Idea of University”, *The Sault Daily Star*, Jan. 10, 1966, second section, p.13.

⁶⁷ By August of 1966 “the Michigan Tech people” were showing their true colours. In a letter from Lawrence Brown to the newly recruited Principal, Dr. Charles Krug, we read: “The Michigan Tech people are making quite an effort here to recruit students for all courses including extension. Obviously Canadian students play a greater role than they have previously cared to admit. We shall have to deal with this institution very roundly. In a backdoor approach, earlier this week, I was asked what Algoma’s views would be if Michigan Tech offered extension courses in Sault, Canada. I replied we would be vigorously opposed and would regard it as an act of aggression which would jeopardize future cooperation.”

Ralph Derby . . . had reservations on the merits of four governments having a voice in the function of such a university.

It reminded him of the situation which existed in his hometown, the Ottawa Valley community of Manotick, Ont. The town was situated on a crossroad where each of the four corners was located in one of four separate townships.

“Like a poor orphan, the town didn’t belong to any of the four townships.

Whenever improvements were needed each of the four townships had to be approached individually. The town had the dickens of a time to obtain improvements,” Mr. Derby recalled.⁶⁸

Using this as their argument base, the Association then detailed the hoops they had to jump through and the delays and red tape they had encountered, and all this in dealing with just one jurisdiction.⁶⁹

We turn back now to another of the problems the Association had to work through during the 1964/65/66 period of preparation for the start of Algoma College, namely, its physical accommodation. We have seen that a number of possibilities were suggested at various times for the physical location of a post-secondary institution from the earliest pursuit of a technical institute to the junior college. These included: spare classrooms in existing schools; spare spaces in a new high school being built; a new \$40,000 building on the Sinclair/Strathclair farm; and, more recently, the Ontario Vocational Centre (OVC).⁷⁰ As things progressed – the incorporation, the formal setting up of Algoma College, and the affiliation agreement – the date for the actual start of classes was first set for September, 1966. But the accommodation problem forced that to be delayed to September 1967. The possibilities for accommodation were narrowed down to some rooms in the OVC. In January of 1966, a tentative agreement between the Association

⁶⁸ “College Need Quashes Idea of University”, The Sault Daily Star, Jan. 15, 1966, second section, p. 13.

⁶⁹ Ibid.

⁷⁰ The OVC was, in a sense, a for-runner of the CAATs. It seems to have been administered by the Ministry of Education’s “secondary” schools branch, rather than the “universities” branch. It first opened in the Sault to some 315 students in September, 1965. See “What’s in a college name?”, The Sault Daily Star, Dec. 17, 1966, p.13.

and OVC involved the latter asking for an extension of 20 rooms, including laboratories, for their future needs, some rooms of which Algoma College could use in the meantime. The agreement both with the Ministry and with OVC was rather vague and tentative, although Lawrence Brown reported from his recent meeting in Toronto that “. . . the department of university affairs is pressing for this.”⁷¹ But by April 14 there was still no firm decision and officials were concerned that the opening date of September 1967 might have to be pushed back.⁷² But on that day, April 14, a delegation from the department of education came to the Sault, and, meeting with the Association and OVC officials, agreed on the general idea of OVC providing accommodation for Algoma College in new facilities to be constructed. In mid-December, 1966 approval was announced for a \$550,000 expansion at the OVC to accommodate the merge into Cambrian College. Part of this project would be a pre-engineered unit consisting of six separate units joined together by a flat roof, referred to as Butler buildings. The \$240,000 building would provide Algoma College with administration offices, a library, locker room facilities, and the shared use of seven classrooms. Construction was expected to be complete by the end of April, 1967. When Algoma College no longer needed this the building could be dissembled and the separate units used as needed by Cambrian College.⁷³ This, as it applied to Algoma, was confirmed by a letter to Lawrence Brown from N.A. Sisco, dated Dec. 21, 1966. It approved the general idea and indicated that negotiations between Algoma College and the Board of Cambrian College would take

⁷¹ “Ask Addition: OVC Locale for College”, The Sault Daily Star, Jan. 28, 1966, p. 13.

⁷² “Leaders Worried: Site Indecision Delays College”, The Sault Daily Star, April 14, 1966, front page.

⁷³ “Cambrian Project: New College Plans Building in Sault”, The Sault Daily Star, Dec. 16, 1966.

place to work out the detailed plans.⁷⁴ Apparently the plan that eventuated was essentially as described above. Algoma would also in the meantime have the use of several existing rooms for the “skeleton staff” that was already being hired, and when classes started, they would be able to share laboratory space.

But by the time the Butler buildings were constructed, OVC had become Cambrian College, and Cambrian claimed that, due to expected increased enrolment, Algoma would not have the use of the full Butler buildings, and neither of all the classrooms that had been promised. In a letter to Education Minister Bill Davis on June 9, 1967, Lawrence Brown outlined the dilemma as follows: “Of the Butler buildings, we are being permitted to use one unit for the administration offices and one unit for the library . . . Of the seven classrooms, Algoma College will be permitted the use of three on a full time basis and possibly half time use of another classroom . . .”⁷⁵ So that was the situation three months before the target opening of classes. In the same letter Brown told the Minister that due to student demand they would be offering the first year of a general B.Sc. programme as well as the first year of the General B.A. He went on to state, “In our discussions with the Vice President Academic and members of the Senate of Laurentian University we were advised that provided we had adequate laboratory facilities up to the standard of Laurentian they would give their concurrence to Algoma offering instruction to first year candidates in the General Courses leading to a B.A., B.Sc., B.Com., and B.Sc. Nursing . . .”⁷⁶ This, with an anticipated enrolment of 150 full-time students and considerably more part-time ones, these accommodations would not be adequate. So,

⁷⁴ Letter from N.A. Sisco, Director, Applied Arts and Technology Branch, Ontario Department of Education, Dec. 21, 1966.

⁷⁵ Letter from Lawrence Brown to Hon. W.G. Davis, June 9, 1967.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.* This is important because, as we shall see, later there were pointed queries by Ministry officials as to when, and by whom, Algoma was given permission to give the first year of the B.Sc.

Brown asked the Minister for permission for Algoma “. . . to erect six additional portables on the Cambrian site at an estimated cost of \$43,200 plus \$20,000 for equipment and request usual grants under Capital construction programs Such portables would serve until 1970 or 1971 when Algoma would move them for use on its own campus.”⁷⁷ It is important to note that this was the first formal capital request to the Ministry by the Association that was approved and funded by the Ministry.

On June 27th, Principal Krug wrote President Mullins of Laurentian with essentially the same issues as the Lawrence Brown letter to the Minister. He ended by asking President Mullins to “transmit this request to the appropriate authorities and oblige”. The request was for the funding for the portables. But there was an interesting paragraph in the middle of his three-page letter dealing with programme and operating issues:

A very distinct requirement of our local students is in the sciences and we have no other recourse but to offer courses in the first year of the General B.Sc. as well as the General B.A. In recent discussions with the Vice-President – Academic and members of the Senate of Laurentian University it was understood that provided we had adequate laboratory facilities up to the standards of Laurentian, concurrence would be given to Algoma offering instruction to first year candidates in the General Courses leading to a B.A., B.Sc. and B.Comm. and such other courses by extension as may be appropriate within the Algoma College area. The additional equipment for the sciences and language laboratories will be

⁷⁷ Night Letter from Lawrence Brown to the Hon. W.A. Davis, June 8, 1967. In his follow-up letter the next day, quoted above, Brown said the portable units would each be 24' x 36' and have a unit cost of \$7,200. The six portables would be used as follows: a library reading and work room; three units to be divided into faculty offices and seminar rooms; student lounge; and the remaining unit divided, half to form a faculty/board room and lounge, and the other half as auxiliary teaching and storage space. He also informed the Minister that the Association has purchased 354 acres of property in the north west part of the city for a future campus, but more on that later. Brown made his appeal here for capital funds directly to the Minister. Just over two years earlier he had “slammed” the government for its unfair treatment of the North; southern universities, he said get 75% of their capital needs supplied by the province while “We have to fight awfully hard for 25 or 30 percent”. “College Official Slams Legislature, University”, The Sault Daily Star, April 6, 1965, second section. Provincial officials denied any such favoritism as reported by the Star a week later, on April 14.

part of another submission we shall be tendering for a supplemental operating grant for the year 1967/68.⁷⁸

In the meantime, to backtrack somewhat again in our chronology, starting in early 1965, Ontario initiated a whole new level of post-secondary institutions, the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology (CAATs). This was first bruited in February of 1965 in a study and recommendations by the Ontario University presidents. They advocated setting up a province-wide system of technical and general education colleges as an alternative to university for grade 12 graduates. The presidents rejected the idea of junior colleges on the American style. Instead, the 30 colleges, one in each city of over 20,000 population, would be similar to Ryerson and to the Lakehead College of Arts, Science and Technology, and would be under the new department of university affairs rather than the department of education. Education minister, Bill Davis said the report is being studied and a plan would be presented to the legislature within a year.⁷⁹ Meanwhile there were disputes as to the exact role of the proposed community colleges and their relation to universities. The Liberal education critic, Robert Nixon, argued for a strong academic stream and that they be “non-terminal”, i.e., that students could proceed from them to university.⁸⁰ Claude Bissell, President of the University of Toronto and chair of the committee that had submitted the report took the opposite view, saying the new colleges should be alternatives to universities not parallel to them. They should be strongly vocational and technological and should not become a “back door into universities”.⁸¹ Minister Davis announced the new system of colleges in the legislature on May 21, 1965,

⁷⁸ Letter from C.A. Krug, Principal, to Professor S.G. Mullins, President, Laurentian University, dated June 27, 1967.

⁷⁹ “Propose College in Sault”, The Sault Daily Star, Feb. 18, 1965, front page.

⁸⁰ “Sees Feud on Junior Colleges”, The Sault Daily Star, Feb. 20, 1965, front page.

⁸¹ “Vocational Theme Urged in Colleges”, The Sault Daily Star, Feb. 27, 1965, p. 22.

but details and legislation were still to come. The initial response to this by the local Algoma College Association was that this development would be compatible with their aims and goals. William Hogg was reported as welcoming the proposal, saying “I believe that our own college here can work in harmony with the new program . . . But to our knowledge now, we believe that we are compatible, and that the Algoma College Board can administer to both programs.”⁸² The June 23 edition of the Sault Star reported that Algoma College Association directors will meet next week in Toronto to discuss community colleges; it reiterated the Associations belief that the community college idea would be compatible with their plans.⁸³ This author could find no record of what happened at that Toronto meeting, nor if such a meeting even took place; but, within 6 months, while Association members were preoccupied with the affiliation agreement with Laurentian, the first indication occurred that that belief of their compatibility was probably not well founded. The council of regents of the new CAATs was announced, and a Sault resident was among the 15 members named to the council. The local member was J.F. O’Neill who told the Star that he had had no discussions on the future relationship between the community college that may be located here and the Algoma College Association.⁸⁴ Ministry officials were very well aware of the pursuits of the Algoma College Association, and if they had wanted a relationship between them and a future CAAT, there surely would have been some communication about that, and a member of the Association would have been a logical person to appoint to the Council of regents. As it turned out, in early October, 1966, Cambrian College of Applied Arts and Technology with three campuses, in Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie, and North Bay, was

⁸² “Sault Hopes to be Site”, The Sault Daily Star, May 21, 1965, front page.

⁸³ “College Meeting”, The Sault Daily Star, June 23, 1965, p. 21.

⁸⁴ “Sault Man Named to College Board”, The Sault Daily Star, Dec. 31, 1965, second section.

announced. In the Sault the new college would take over the OVC location and program and expand both. The Star article reporting this ended with the note: “There is no conflict expected between the College of Applied Arts and Technology and Algoma College which is slated to open its doors on the OVC campus in September, 1967.”⁸⁵ We will have many occasions to judge whether this optimistic prediction would turn out to have been accurate or not.

In the meantime also, to back up somewhat, again, chronologically, Algoma College began the tasks of recruiting a principal, registrar-administrator, librarian, and then faculty, and the job of establishing a library. Advertisements for the three positions of principal, registrar and librarian were launched “. . . in one of the Toronto newspapers and in the professional journal of the National Association of Universities and Colleges” in early March, 1966.⁸⁶ By April 15, 1966, Lawrence Brown informed the Sault Star that the search for principal, registrar and librarian were well under way with several excellent prospects for each of the positions; interviews should occur within the next few weeks.⁸⁷ There is no information on who the other prospective candidates were for these offices, other than the successful ones. In a letter to him of May 24, 1966, Lawrence Brown invites Rev. C.A. Krug, Registrar and Vice-Principal of Huntington University in Sudbury, to an interview for the position of principal. The letter gives some positive details of where the Association stands in terms of the start-up of the College – they have over \$300,000 for capital construction, but initially will operate out of rented facilities in

⁸⁵ “Cambrian College’s Campus Divided Among Sault, Sudbury, North Bay”, The Sault Daily Star, Oct. 11, 1966, front page.

⁸⁶ “College Seeks Staff”, The Sault Daily Star, Mar. 15, 1966, p. 17.

⁸⁷ “Plan Quarters: Officials Revive Hopes for College This Year”, The Sault Daily Star, April 15, 1966, front page.

the OVC; they have an affiliation agreement with Laurentian; the target starting date is 1967; they're in the process of recruiting a registrar and librarian.⁸⁸

On June 27, 1966, Professor Krug's appointment was announced as the unanimous choice for Principal of Algoma College. The Sault Star notice gave some of his qualifications and personal particulars. He was chairman of the Philosophy department, registrar and vice-principal at Huntington. He had begun his academic career as executive secretary to the chancellor of Victoria University (Toronto) and assistant in psychology at the University of Toronto. He served for many years as Massey professor of philosophy and dean at Mount Allison University. He had been a Dominion fellow and visiting lecturer in educational psychology at the University of London, England. During WWII he served as an infantry officer and a member of the Intelligence Corps. He is a United Church minister, is married and has one son and two daughters.⁸⁹

The Rev. Charles Krug certainly turned out to be a very interesting character as we will see; but whatever his subsequent history, it is clear that he was from the beginning an enthusiastic and ambitious booster of the future Algoma College. He immediately started to talk up the College, asserting that it will open in the fall of 1967 with a “. . . full program of university studies in first year arts and science. We will have a solid basis for the full range of university courses – pre-engineering, pre-medical, pre-dental.”⁹⁰ A week later the Sault Star reports on what must have been a long, rambling address Krug gave to the local University Women's Club. It ranged from his aesthetic

⁸⁸ Letter from Lawrence Brown to the Reverend C.A. Krug, May 24, 1966.

⁸⁹ “'67 Opening: Algoma College Picks Principal”, The Sault Daily Star, June 27, 1966, front page. At various times in letter addresses and in newspaper articles Krug is referred to as “Dr.” Krug. There is no indication or claim that he had an earned doctorate; his listed degrees were M.A. and B.D. (bachelor of divinity). He may, however, have received an honorary doctorate at some point. For a much more detailed biographical sketch and encomium see the “Dedication” in the 1968 yearbook, “Invictus”, pp.2-3.

⁹⁰ “Principal confident: Algoma's college will bustle by start of September 1967”, The Sault Daily Star, Sept. 22, 1966, second section, front page.

experience of the fall colours up the north highway, to specialization, technology, automation, leisure, Einstein, universal life-long education, etc. Some quotes from this address as recorded by the Sault Star include:

I'd like to see students come into my house and say, "Mrs. Krug, where's the coffee pot?"

We are moving into an era of hyper-specialization set in a background of ignorance.

With automation we have more leisure time and know less about ourselves or how to use this time.

A biochemist and a chemist don't know what each other are talking about.

Knowledge as being applied today in industry is completely automated, even our Kentucky fried chicken. The chickens haven't even seen a human being. That's a great deprivation. I learned a lot from chickens.

At Algoma College we are going to obtain the best qualified professors and build the buildings for them. If I constructed a chemistry lab today, it would be outdated in five years. We must be able to expand all the time.

From Waterloo I went to Laurentian and confirmed what some of my colleagues saw for me. I was going to end up on the rocks.⁹¹

In an address to the 10th annual commencement exercises of the Sir James Dunn Collegiate and Vocational School, Professor Krug continued boosting the future Algoma College for its potential savings to students, its guaranteed standards through its affiliation, and its combining of lectures and tutorials.

In most arts and science courses one hour tutorial period per week will be scheduled to establish personal contact between students and professors. In this way Algoma will combine the North American lecture system with the British tutorial system, Prof. Krug said.

In the beginning Algoma College will not be an expensive set of buildings but with hard work it will eventually become a "truly international university".⁹²

With this short taste of Krug's character, ambition and enthusiasm, we leave him for the time being, and turn to the recruitment of a registrar. Again, as with the principal, we have no record about other potential candidates. The appointment of Harold

⁹¹ "Dr. Krug spoke to UWC: Knowledge isn't what's stuck in a book", The Sault Daily Star, Sept. 29, 1966, p.19.

⁹² "Algoma College will combine both tutorial, lecture systems", The Sault Daily Star, Oct. 20, 1966, p. 16.

MacDonald was announced as the registrar and bursar of Algoma College. His duties, according to Principal Krug, besides those of registrar, will include responsibility for the college's business administration and records as well as counseling prospective students. Mr. MacDonald was a recent retiree from the post of principal of Alex Muir school. He held a B.A. from the University of Western Ontario, bachelor's and master's degrees in education from the University of Toronto, and an inspector's certificate from the Ontario Department of Education. He had been very active in the Ontario Men's Teachers Federation.⁹³ MacDonald was thorough, cautious, methodical and conscientious. This was evident from the first months of his appointment. On Jan. 23, 1967 he sent Lawrence Brown a 6-page report, detailing almost hour by hour his meetings, during Jan. 19 through 22, with various Laurentian personnel that he went to visit to familiarize himself with various processes and procedures. At the beginning of his report he outlined the reasons for his visit:

- a) To make myself acquainted with those persons on the Laurentian Administrative staff having common responsibilities and problems;
- b) To establish a good relationship between the two bodies in the light that each will be able to be a valuable asset to the other;
- c) To establish correct lines of communication as an affiliate for smoother operation between the two bodies;
- d) To establish a uniformity of operation with Laurentian that would lessen the possibility of future problems, both academically and administratively;
- e) To learn the correct lines of procedure through a mutually acceptable chain of command for purposes of policy making;
- f) To acquire as much information and assistance of a general nature as possible that would be useful in getting Algoma College successfully launched.⁹⁴

⁹³ "Appoint long-time educator Registrar of Algoma College", The Sault Daily Star, Nov. 24, 1966, p. 17.

⁹⁴ Report by H. MacDonald to L. Brown entitled "Visit to Laurentian University, Jan. 19th to 22nd ", 1967, p.1. Although the report is dated as shown here, in the body of the report he consistently gives the dates as Jan. 16th to 19th.

MacDonald detailed the various personnel he met with, and the information gleaned – information on admissions and applications, including forms for these; extension course procedures; IBM system forms for registrar’s record keeping; accounting and bookkeeping procedures; information on fee and grant structures; requisition forms and purchase orders; fringe benefits and the pension plan; public relations, etc. The Laurentian accountant gave him a cheque for \$500 designated by a Sudbury firm specifically for Algoma College when it got established. He received cautions against Algoma introducing a “preliminary” year (Krug had several times mentioned this as a possibility in his talking up Algoma College to Sault audiences). The Vice-President, who was also a member of the Cambrian College Board, and thus was in the know about Algoma/Cambrian(Sault branch) relationships, questioned the advisability of Algoma offering the first year of a B.Sc. programme, due to high lab costs and difficulty in recruiting qualified staff. He gave MacDonald a list of questions he had for, and information he needed from, Principal Krug: detailed course offerings Algoma was proposing for first year B.A. and B.Sc. programmes; issues re. faculty hiring – consultation about standards of faculty qualifications; whether Algoma want Laurentian to vet future faculty; does Algoma want files of qualified applicants Laurentian has not hired but keeps on file; finally, establishing lines of procedure on academic requests to Senate for all three affiliated colleges. MacDonald emphasized both at the beginning and at the end of his report how impressed he was with the cordial and helpful attitude, invitations to come back, the offers to come to Algoma to help get things set up, and the expressions of good will and success he received from everyone at Laurentian.⁹⁵

⁹⁵ Ibid., passim.

We'll have much more opportunity to observe the character and contributions of Mr. MacDonald as we proceed. We now turn to the hiring of a librarian and the development of a library for Algoma College.

In early December, 1966 Mrs. Jean Eckmier was appointed librarian for Algoma College. She had been senior acquisitions librarian at York University for the previous three years.⁹⁶ She arrived with her husband in early January of 1967. She was a graduate of McGill University and had worked at the Huron County library with her husband for 16 years, then at Scarborough Township library before going to York University. She was temporarily set up in a house across the street from the OVC with her husband, Glen, as cataloguing supervisor, and a secretary, Miss Linda Nelson. Twenty five boxes of books preceded her arrival at the house. She was expecting two large gifts of books shortly; one, a collection of early Canadian books from York University, and the other, a collection of science books from the Toronto Public Library. In addition to drawing on her own experience as acquisitions librarian, she would be using the list of basic books, and pre-printed catalogue cards, for new libraries that the University of Toronto had developed for the new Ontario universities. New books were being ordered daily, and a recent shipment of 1,500 books had arrived. She expected the library to move to more permanent quarters, being prepared at the OVC, by July; and, when classes start in September, she expected the library will have 50,000 volumes.⁹⁷ That, of course, was another overly optimistic expectation.

In the meantime, also in January of centennial year, other things were happening concerning Algoma College. As indicated before, the Sault Ste. Marie City Council had

⁹⁶ "Librarian chosen at college", The Sault Daily Star, Dec. 10, 1966, p. 15.

⁹⁷ "York librarian comes to our college", The Sault Daily Star, Feb. 16, 1967, p. 15.

set aside one half mil per year for several successive years for the College Association. On Jan. 23, the Association came before City Council to ask for the money because it had assembled a land purchase of 373 acres at Fourth Line and Brule Road, and the transaction was to be concluded in February. The total city levy, with interest, amounted to over \$283,000. There was some grumbling and questions by counselors before the vote. Questions included: could the city use the money in any other way? The city solicitor answered “no”. Was the grant to include accrued interest? Answer: that was always the understanding. Was the Algoma College Association a separate legal entity? Answer “yes”. Could counselors (Rhodes and King), who had Algoma College Association membership cards, vote without being in conflict of interest? Answer by solicitor “yes”. The motion to turn over the money was unanimously approved.⁹⁸ But it didn’t end there. Very quickly people criticized the site, intended to be purchased, as being “too far out”, and beyond the city water and sewer lines. It would be too expensive to provide those and electricity to the site.⁹⁹ Next, on Jan. 30, Alderman Frank Shunock said he would attempt to block the city’s paying the accumulated interest. The amount of the principal was \$240,000; the additional \$43,000 was accumulated interest. Shunock argued that if the investment had been a bad one and lost money the city would have had to make good on it, so the interest from the good investment should remain with the city.¹⁰⁰ After a Feb. 3 editorial criticizing Shunock’s position, and a procedural wrangle and heated debate at city council on Feb. 6, the position was maintained that the interest

⁹⁸ “373 Acres: Algoma College Picks Fourth Line Location”, The Sault Daily Star, Jan. 24, 1967, front page.

⁹⁹ “Chairman Disputes Claim College Site Too Far Out”, The Sault Daily Star, Jan.26, 1967, front page.

¹⁰⁰ “College funds challenged by alderman”, The Sault Daily Star, Jan.31, 1967, second section, front page.

should go to the college.¹⁰¹ The upshot was that the Association purchased the Fourth Line acreage for the site of the future campus.

Going back now to another major task that had to be done in order for the College to begin to offer classes in the fall of 1967, we turn to the recruitment of faculty. This job was turned over completely to Principal Krug. There is no indication that he had any input from anyone on this, though we can perhaps surmise that, having come from Laurentian, he may have taken up their offer, we saw earlier, that had been made to Mr. MacDonald about this.¹⁰² In any case, given that Krug was officially appointed in late June of 1966, and given the usual timetable for the complex process of advertisements, applications, decisions and appointments in Ontario Universities, his recruiting of 19 highly qualified faculty in a period of just over a year, to an institution that existed only on paper, was a prodigious accomplishment. As we'll see later, his enthusiasm and optimism seemed to have gotten the better of him, and he did it by providing misleading and embellished information about the actual state and future prospects of the College, and by making unrealistic promises to prospective candidates. In any case, by March, 1967 there were indications that Krug was having some success at recruiting faculty. "He is meeting with success, he reports, partly because the college is so new. . . There is a

¹⁰¹ "Why Another Roadblock?", editorial, The Sault Daily Star, Feb. 3, 1967, p. 6. And "College gets grant, interest", The Sault Daily Star, Feb. 7, 1967, second section, front page.

¹⁰² On March 20, 1967, at the beginning of the faculty hiring process Krug sent a Memorandum to Chairman Brown setting out a salary schedule for the different faculty ranks as follows: Full professor with doctorate beginning at \$14,000, with \$500 per year of post-doctoral research or teaching, to a maximum of \$17,000. Associate professor with doctorate beginning at \$11,000, with \$500 per annum additional research or teaching to a maximum of \$14,000. Similarly for assistant professor, with doctorate, \$9,000 starting and \$12,000 maximum; and lecturer with completed honours B.A., starting at \$7,500 and with further graduate work and teaching experience, a maximum of \$10,500. Heads of departments would get an additional \$1,000 per year. This, the memo says "would knock our salary budget into a cocked hat depending on the qualifications of the people we can get". But he felt they had to be competitive in order to get qualified people. Brown sent this to President Mullins at Laurentian for his comments. Mullins replied in a letter of April 4, saying these salary levels were "on the whole very sound", and within the competitive ranges of most universities, except for the lecturer rank. He thought that rank's minimum should be \$7,000, and the maximum \$9,000.

certain attraction for the teaching profession in a school that is new. . . The new professors, in many cases, expect to find an ‘academic freedom’ that sometimes evaporates a little in older universities.”¹⁰³ An April 5th Star report had the Registrar tell the St. Andrew’s United Church that 217 prospective teachers have been interviewed by Dr. Krug.¹⁰⁴ This does seem a bit implausible; probably what was meant was that that was the number of applicants. In any case, over the next months reports of appointments to the faculty trickled out. The first of these was that of John E. MacDonald in psychology. He had a master’s degree from Edinburgh, and most of his experience was in England except for the last few years as professor at the new Lakehead University in Port Arthur, Ontario.¹⁰⁵ The second appointment was a Dr. E.R. Schwarz in history; then a husband and wife team, John E. MacNab, associate professor of economics and chairman of the division of social sciences, and Grace L. MacNab, lecturer in sociology.¹⁰⁶ By May 20 it was announced that 17 full-time faculty had been hired, and on May 23 a list of the three divisions, with their faculty, 18 all together, and a list of their course offerings in both first year and “extension” was published as an advertisement in the Star.¹⁰⁷ A reproduction of the latter is included as an appendix to this chapter. The list of 18 full-time faculty in that advertisement is not complete for the 1967-68 academic year. Added to it must be Laughlin MacRea in the division of humanities, and Al Pyke in the division of social sciences, and Shortliffe must be deleted,

¹⁰³ “Meeting with Success: Algoma College search continues for instructors”, The Sault Daily Star, March 23, 1967, second section, front page.

¹⁰⁴ “217 want to teach at Algoma College”, The Sault Daily Star, April 5, 1967, p. 19.

¹⁰⁵ “Professor named to Algoma College”, The Sault Daily Star, May 9, 1967, second section, front page.

¹⁰⁶ “Professor Of History Appointed”, The Sault Daily Star, May 15, 1967, p.16. And “Husband-wife team of teachers named to Algoma College”, May 16, 1967, second section, front page.

¹⁰⁷ “Algoma College hires from 4 corners of earth”, The Sault Daily Star, May 20, 1967, second section, front page. And “Algoma College . . . 1967-68 Faculty & Courses”, The Sault Daily Star, May 25, 1967, advertisement, p.11.

for a total of 19. Nor does this list of proposed courses mean that all or just those courses were actually offered in September 1967. In terms of staff, an undated list from that first year indicates: the Principal's secretary, Helen Douglas; the accountant, Joyce Mascardelli; library staff, Jean Eckmier, Judith Aldus and Glenn Eckmier; and secretarial pool, Mary Jeckell, Christine McNevin, Linda Nelson, and Rosemary Mancuso.

So it would seem that everything was set for a late September, 1967, opening and start of classes for Algoma College. The administrative team, faculty, and staff were hired; accommodations were being readied; programmes and courses were advertised; a library was being assembled; students were being enrolled.¹⁰⁸ But, there would still be a few wrinkles.

On September 21, 1967, less than a week before classes were to start, Lawrence Brown, speaking to the Kiwanis club, called for severance of the school's tie with Laurentian. He said the affiliation was potentially "irksome", and Laurentian's encouragement of Algoma was "limited".

I say limited for the reason that in Sudbury they have the opinion and have openly expressed it that we are an outpost of theirs. I cannot accept this colonial interpretation and I hope this yoke can soon be severed, for given the proper support from governmental bodies at all levels, I believe we can outstrip Laurentian.¹⁰⁹

¹⁰⁸ On both the latter points – library acquisitions and student enrolment – there were wildly varying projections of numbers. Projections of numbers of library books available by opening date varied between 50,000 and 4,000. We've already seen, above, the librarian's prediction of 50,000, but in a letter of April 12, 1967, Lawrence Brown, filling in Arthur Wishart on how things were developing, tells him "Our library is coming along nicely and so far we have acquired over 4,000 books". On the issue of full-time student enrolment the predictions varied between 100 and 300, with the most usual number being 150. For example, on July 11, a Sault Star headline read "150 students will open Algoma College". On the day that first year, full-time classes started, September 28, 1967, the Star reported the Registrar saying that enrolment was "just a shade under 100", and he was still predicting that the number should go "over 150 by the end of this week". 300 part-time students were signed up and he predicted that number "could go as high as 400".

¹⁰⁹ "Colonial Attitude: Algoma College Wants to Cut Tie with Sudbury's Laurentian", The Sault Daily Star, Sept. 22, 1967, front page.

Apart from the alleged “outpost” snub, there is no indication of what, seriously, might have occasioned this outburst, especially given, as we’ve seen, above, the Registrar’s earlier report of very good and helpful relations. In the same Kiwanis talk Brown called for an immediate development of the fourth line site, estimating that it would require a capital expenditure of \$10, 000,000. “I am already postulating a public campaign to raise \$1,500,000 on the assumption that 85 per cent of our capital costs will be met by government grants.”

Predictably Brown’s comments about Laurentian’s “colonial” attitude didn’t go unnoticed in Sudbury. On September 28, three days after Algoma’s actual opening day, Laurentian’s President, Stanley Mullins, responded. Sault Ste. Marie will undoubtedly get a university of its own when it is big enough to support one, he said. Moreover, this is not just his own opinion, but is a position shared by the Ontario Department of University Affairs. He emphatically rejected the suggestion that he was concerned that a full university in the Sault might take away from Laurentian. “I am sympathetic (to the idea of a university in the Sault) – I always have been. I’m one of the people who fought to have the college established,” he said.¹¹⁰

Perhaps one of the types of “irksome” irritants that Brown had spoken of arose also just the week before classes started. Algoma had apparently told local teachers that not only would it be offering part-time senior-level courses in extension starting that fall, but that it would also offer summer courses on site next summer. But, “In plain language, Laurentian University said that summer courses arranged by Algoma must be held in

¹¹⁰ “Sault said not big enough to support own university”, The Sault Daily Star, Sept. 29, 1967, front page.

Sudbury.”¹¹¹ The reason supposedly given by Laurentian for this was “. . . that summer school courses must be offered in a university-type atmosphere and setting”. Brown rejected this, and said Algoma was pressing ahead with its plans to offer summer school classes next summer. He went on to raise the point that Algoma expected to offer full-time second year within a year, and full-time third year the following year.¹¹² Brown also indicated that Algoma would be offering extension courses in Wawa that fall/winter.

Going back somewhat, chronologically, an interesting exchange of letters should be noted. On April 5, 1967 the Algoma College Association secretary, Otto Ivany sent a letter to the department of University Affairs requesting that the name of ‘Algoma College’ be changed to ‘Algoma University College’. The purpose of this request presumably was so the college could more easily be distinguished in the minds of the public from non-university level institutions in the city that also used the designation ‘college’, e.g., Cambrian College, St. Mary’s College, Mount St Joseph’s College. E.E. Stewart, Deputy Minister of University Affairs, replied on April 25, that the Committee on University Affairs had discussed this and the Minister concurred with the committee that:

. . . at this time, no change was required in the present designation of your institution and, if any distinction was required between Algoma College and any other institution, it could be achieved through the use of the additional phrase – of Laurentian University.¹¹³

¹¹¹ “Algoma College Wants Summer Courses Here, Not Sudbury”, The Sault Daily Star, Sept. 23, 1967, front page.

¹¹² Ibid. This was certainly a new and controversial development, both to Laurentian and the Ministry. Back in that pivotal meeting of March 28, 1963, of the Sault delegation with Ministry officials, the minutes show Brown as saying “We want to go very slowly . . . Maybe in 6 or 8 years, maybe sooner we might add second year”. See footnote # 49 above. We’ll see in the next chapter that pressure from the local students who had taken the first year program upped the ante for getting upper year full-time programs immediately.

¹¹³ Letter from E.E. Stewart to Mr. Otto A. Ivany, dated April 25, 1967. It is interesting to note that later in 1974 a similar request was made by acting principal Francis Guth, and it was again turned down. However, Guth ignored it and ordered stationary to be changed to incorporate ‘university’ into the title. For years after, the Ministry refused this change on their correspondence, but eventually they did adopt it.

Some legitimate questions to ask at this point are: What was the operating budget for the College in that preliminary start-up year of 1966-67? What was the projected operating budget for the first full year of operation, 1967-68? Where was the money coming from? The author has not found much documentary evidence to be able to answer these questions with any degree of assurance. We saw earlier, on page 18, that when the Association still had a projected fall 1965 start date, they estimated expenditures for the two preceding years to be \$60,000 each to cover the principal's, librarian's and two secretaries' salaries and library books; and the first year of operation to be \$175,000 to include faculty salaries and lab equipment. Later these estimates changed to \$30,000 for 1963, \$60,000 for 1964 and \$190,000 for 1965 the first year of operation.¹¹⁴ But that was then.

Clearly the 1966-67 year had significant expenses, including: salaries for the principal, registrar, librarian, the cataloguing technician, and a secretary; advertising costs for the recruiting ads; travel costs especially for the principal's recruiting travel; library book purchases; office furniture; office and library supplies. We don't know exactly what these expenses amounted to. Some of the money for this set-up year came from donations from individuals and businesses. Apparently a good deal of it came from the City of Sault Ste. Marie, that is, in addition to the half mill set aside in each of the years 1962, 1963 and 1964 for capital purposes, as already dealt with above. In April, 1967, City Council voted to give Algoma College \$73,662 for operating shortfalls. "As pointed out by Mr. Brown, this amount is the anticipated excess in operating expenditures to the end of 1967

¹¹⁴ "Algoma College Sought", The Sault Daily Star, Mar. 27, 1963, front page.

after other revenues have been taken into account”.¹¹⁵ There’s no indication of where the ‘other revenues’ came from. The article goes on to say that “The total budgeted expenditures for the year are \$262,125. Of this, some \$188,463 is hoped to be forthcoming from government grants, tuition fees and a previous bank balance.” Again, there’s no indication of where the ‘previous bank balance’ came from.

In a letter to Attorney General Wishart on April 24, Lawrence Brown acknowledges the receipt from City Council, but says that because of student response they have been obliged to offer first year courses in Physics, Biology, Geology and Chemistry. So additional faculty and lab equipment will cost \$48,000. A supplemental request for an additional \$57,000 has been sent in to the Department of University Affairs through Laurentian.¹¹⁶ Krug basically confirms this in a later memo, but he says 5 science faculty must be hired, and it will increase the salary budget by \$54,500.¹¹⁷

There exists a barely legible ‘onion skin’ copy of a detailed capital and operating budget for the 1967-68 academic year, sent, with a covering letter, to Lawrence Brown, signed by John E. MacNab, Chairman of Division of Social Science, for C.A. Krug, Principal, and dated May 29, 1967. The letter explains that the increases over presumably an earlier estimate of costs, on the operating side, is due to increased anticipated enrolment (now “pushing 200) with a larger ratio in the sciences, and Laurentian’s insistence that there be at least one full-time faculty member for each of the four sciences being taught. The total operating expense presented by this budget document was \$518,585. The total fee income was estimated at \$127,500. This was based on 200 full-

¹¹⁵ “Algoma College \$73,000 request meets little opposition from city”, *The Sault Daily Star*, April 19, 1967, second section, front page.

¹¹⁶ Letter to Hon. A.A. Wishart from Lawrence Brown, dated April 24, 1967.

¹¹⁷ Memorandum to The Board of Governors from Principal C.A. Krug “Re. B.Sc. Curriculum and Staff Appointments”.

time and up to 500 “extension student units”. So the difference of \$391,065 was to be made up from “Combined Federal and Provincial Operating Grant”. There is no definitive information on how realistic, or final, or if officially accepted by the Board, was this document. But numbers close to these were transmitted to President Mullins as late as mid-July by Lawrence Brown. What we do know is that it included salaries for 21 full-time faculty, but only 19 were hired that first year. We also know that the enrolment that first year was 79 full-time and around 350 part-time. So it’s not difficult to see that a disaster was looming.¹¹⁸ The July letter from Lawrence Brown to President Mullins sets out the situation quite clearly:

I am enclosing herewith an estimated budget for 1967/1968 operating costs for Algoma College in the amount of \$524,955 which, of course, is considerably above that submitted to the Department of University Affairs in November of last year. You will recall at the meeting with the Committee on University Affairs I stated that without knowing realistically what our student body or its academic requirements would be our budget could only be considered a tentative one and that in the course of time when student and faculty recruitment was more factual a supplementary budget would be submitted.

As an appendix to the budget please also find enclosed explanatory notes to the budget which will give some detail as to the increase. Perhaps the biggest factor in the increased budget is that our course has also been directed toward offering instruction in the General Sciences and to the fact that the requirements of your own academic staff that Algoma have a full and proper staff to conduct such courses.

In regard to the operating income, you will note that, despite the increased anticipated operating expenditures, no increase is predicted in the amount of student fees and that these remain at \$127,500. Increased enrolment, as I am sure you will understand, is limited because of the difficulties we have experienced in regard to the accommodation. Naturally, had we been given the full complement of Cambrian College’s portable buildings, as were promised to us, together with those that we have decided to erect, we believe our complement of students would have been considerably greater. However, although we request that the Department of University Affairs consider a supplementary grant of \$177,455 that

¹¹⁸ There are various numbers given in various documents for the number of full-time faculty hired that first year, as well as for the number of first year full-time students that enrolled. The full-time faculty numbers vary from 19 to 21. The most likely number is 19, from the lists of names given at various times. The full-time students numbers vary from 77 to 79. The number 79 is used earliest and most often; so, perhaps, the number stabilized at 79 and then, perhaps later, several dropped out.

this amount could be slightly reduced by the receipts we hope we can expect from the Department of Extension. I would also add that in this estimated budget there is approximately \$62,000 for the purchase of language and science equipment required in these respective fields.

We have been struggling so long in Sault Ste. Marie, almost ten years in fact, to see Algoma College become a reality but the enthusiasm and response of the people of this community is, I believe, a confirmation of our faithful endeavours in all these years. I am hopeful that from now on the students of Sault Ste. Marie will look to Algoma and to Laurentian rather to those institutions of our neighbour south of us. I may also add, however, I would look forward to the day, which may be sooner than we think, that Algoma will become a degree-granting institution with Laurentian University serving as the post-graduate institute of Northern Ontario.

We are reliably informed that in the next academic year the Lake Superior College in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan are anticipating a new enrolment of almost 400 Canadian students despite increased fees, many of whom will not return to enrich Canada. It is, therefore, imperative that Algoma be given every encouragement to progress as its needs demand.¹¹⁹

On the same day Brown wrote another separate letter to Mullins regarding capital needs, specifically for the six portables the College was constructing. To ensure accommodation for the September opening, he said, the Board of Governors “have unilaterally decided for the time being to invest its own money in financing the cost of six portable units”. He noted the tendered cost estimates for the portables to be \$30,859.81, with an additional \$8,000 for electrical wiring, approximately \$3,000 for site work, and at least \$20,000 for furnishings and equipment, for a generously rounded total of \$63,000. He concluded by saying that he and his Board colleagues are aware that “this is somewhat contrary to what the Minister of University Affairs recently stated in response to my letter of June 9th”, but that, to fulfill their obligations they had no alternative but “to proceed with the utmost dispatch”.¹²⁰

¹¹⁹ Letter from Lawrence Brown, Chairman, to Professor S.G. Mullins, President, Laurentian University, dated July 18, 1967. A copy of the enclosed budget has not been found.

¹²⁰ From a letter from Lawrence Brown, Chairman, to Professor S.G. Mullins, President, Laurentian University, dated July 18, 1967.

On July 20th, President Mullins wrote the Chairman of the Committee on University Affairs, supporting Algoma's request for additional operating and capital funding, and asking for a meeting with the Committee. Here is the text of that letter:

The Chairman of the Board of Governors of Algoma College has requested that I ask for a meeting of the Committee on University Affairs in order that the members of the College Board may present a request for an increased operating grant and a revised capital grant for the College for the Year 1967-68. After studying documents given to me by the College authorities, I am inclined to believe that Algoma College has a just cause to request increases in operating grants and to ask for a capital grant. I am, therefore, supporting their request. Would you, therefore, arrange for a delegation from Algoma College and Laurentian University to present the case for Algoma College to the Committee during the month of September. May I suggest that such a meeting might conveniently take place in the third week of September when the enrolment of the College is known.¹²¹

A subsequent series of letters between Mullins and Wright indicate that there were some difficulties coordinating a date for meeting, and ultimately instead of a delegation going to Toronto, Dr. Wright was to meet with Algoma and Laurentian representatives in the Sault on October 4th. More on this in the next chapter.

One last enthusiastic and supportive editorial in the Star on September 27, around the time classes started, launched the new institution.¹²² It reiterated the advantages of a local university and supported early independence from Laurentian, and an early development of the fourth line site.¹²³

There exists an interesting, undated, document on the "Future of Algoma College", which hailed from most probably 1967 or 1968. References in it to Cambrian College and to the 4th Line site indicate that its origins postdated those events, but

¹²¹ Letter from Stanley G. Mullins, President, to Dr. D.T. Wright, Chairman, Committee on University Affairs, dated July 20, 1967.

¹²² There are similar discrepancies in the various reports of the actual starting date of classes; some indicate September 25, others, September 28. September 25 is the more likely date.

¹²³ "College Deserves Fullest Support", The Sault Daily Star, editorial, Sept. 27, 1967, p.6.

reference to the desirability of a “preliminary year”, which was one of Krug’s ideas, indicates it wouldn’t have postdated Krug’s tenure as Principal. So this is perhaps a good place to peruse it:

Future of Algoma College

Recommendations:

1. Re promotion
 - (a) that a fairly large citizen’s committee made up of representatives from industry, business, service clubs, professionals, etc. be formed to assist the present Board of Governors
 - (b) That the number on the present Board of Governors be extended to include representatives from other populated areas in the District of Algoma.
2. Re finances:
 - (a) that a well planned fundraising campaign for capital purposes be launched in the near future
 - (b) that an early requisition for municipal assistance be submitted
 - (c) that ways and means be made available and publicly known for contributions from private individuals and private enterprise
 - (d) that there be a continued stepped-up solicitation for greater provincial assistance.
3. Re plant facilities:
 - (a) that the local council be urged to extend its public utilities to our present property
 - (b) that a combined extensive educational centre of higher learning including both Algoma College and Cambrian College be given close study with a view of utilizing certain common services at a considerable saving
 - (c) that a committee of local interested persons be sent to study and examine other educational centres in both Canada and the U.S.A. for guidance purposes
 - (d) that a competent architect or architectural firm be employed to provide professional leadership and direction.
 - (e) That we procede with reasonable haste toward having our own plant facilities to add permanency to our whole endeavour.
4. Re academic policy:
 - (a) that we give careful consideration to a preliminary year equivalent to our Grade XIII to offer comparable facilities to that of Lake Superior State College and thus stop the flow of local students out of the country
 - (b) that we endeavour to extend our academic facilities to include not only General B.A. and B.Sc. degrees but other such degrees in the fields of commerce, administration, nursing, education, engineering, etc., as well
 - (c) that we give careful study to the pros and cons of a semester system of operation because of our geographical location and the apparent popularity of such a system in the U.S.A.
 - (d) that we endeavour to become unique by specializing in certain particular fields. Considering our geographical location and the modern trends in

education we might give careful consideration to the field of geology and a Bachelor degree in Education, a four year course combining academic and professional training.

5. Re functional operation:

That all concerned with Algoma College work toward establishing a code of ethics that will guide us when we are dealing with College affairs. This code of ethics may eventually take a form of a handbook of routine procedures for use by the Board of Governors, administration and faculty alike so that all will have a mutual understanding of what is acceptable procedure. Acceptable procedure will do much to establish good will and raise the prestige of the College both internally and externally.

Appendix

ALGOMA COLLEGE

Sault Ste. Marie affiliate of Laurentian University

1967-68 FACULTY & COURSES

Principal – C.A. Krug, M.A. B.D.

Division of Humanities

Chairman Paul Aldus, Ph.D. (Chicago), M.A. (Michigan), B.S. (Detroit)
 Lloyd Bannerman, Ph.D. (Toronto), M.A. & B.A. (British Columbia)
 Rosette Donald, Ph.D. expected 1967 (McGill), M.A. & B.A. (McGill)
 Carlo Fonda, Ph.D. (Venice), Ph.D. (Paris)
 James E. Napier, Ph.D. in progress (Waterloo), M.A. (Waterloo), B.A.
 (San Jose)
 Anthony G. Parise, Ph.D.(Wisconsin), M.A.(Northwestern), B.S.
 (Wisconsin)

FIRST YEAR COURSES OFFERED:

*English 11 – Representative English Writers Shakespeare to Auden
 *English 14 – English for Science and Engineering students
 *French 9 – Intermediate French (for students beginning French)
 *French 15 – Initiation a la litterature francaise
 *French 18 – Histoire generale de la litterature francaise
 German 9 – Basic German
 German 11 – Intermediate German
 Italian 9 – Basic Italian
 Italian 11 – Intermediate Italian
 *Philosophy 11 – Introduction to Philosophy
 *Philosophy 13 – Ancient Philosophy
 Spanish 9 – Elementary Spanish
 Spanish 11 – Intermediate Spanish

EXTENSION COURSES OFFERED:

English 21 – English Literature from Dryden to Keats
 English 22 – The Novel from 1832
 English 25 – English Literature of the 19th & 20th Centuries
 English 35 – Some Major North American Authors
 French – see first year

German – see first year
 Italian – see first year
 Philosophy 21 – Logic
 Philosophy 31 – Ethics
 Spanish – see first year

Division of Physical Sciences

Chairman Harold Hicks, Ph.D.(Minnesota), M.Sc.(Alberta), B.Sc.(Manitoba)
 Parannara Basavappa, Ph.D.(Sask.), M.Sc. (Banares), B.Sc.(Mysore)
 Edward L. Faulkner, Ph.D. & M.Sc.(Sask.), B.Sc. & A.R.S.M.(Royal
 School of Mines)
 Peter Graham, Ph.D. expected 1967 (Alberta), M.Sc. & B.Sc.(Rhodes,
 South Africa)
 Lorne L. Hill, Ph.D. expected 1967 (Purdue), M.Sc.(Cornell), B.Sc.
 (Guelph)
 Clarence Pidwerbesky, Ph.D.(Wyoming), M.Sc. (Ohio), B.A.(Queen's)
 Paul D. Pushkar, Ph.D.(California, San Diego), B.Sc.(Manitoba)

FIRST YEAR COURSES OFFERED:

- *Biology 11 – The Principles of Biology (for Arts students)
- *Botany 11 – General Botany
- *Chemistry 10 – Principles of Chemistry
- *Chemistry 13 – Chemistry as a Science (for Arts students)
- *Engineering 10 – Graphics I
- *Geography 11 – Introduction to Geography
- *Geology 11 – General Geology
- *Mathematics 11 – Calculus I
- *Mathematics 12 – Basic Methods of Mathematics
- *Physics 10 – General Physics
- *Physics 13 – Introductory Physics (for Arts students)
- *Zoology 12 – Animal Structure and Function
- *Zoology 14 – General Zoology

EXTENSION COURSES OFFERED:

- Botany 22 – Plant Morphology and Taxonomy
- Geography 21 – The Geography of Economic Activity
- *Geology 24 – Minerology
- *Mathematics 100 – Special Mathematics (open only to Ontario secondary school teachers)

Division of Social Science

Chairman John E. MacNab, Ph.D. in progress (American), M.A. & B.A.(George Washington)
 J. Edwin Macdonald, M.A (Edinburgh)
 Grace L. MacNab, M.A. expected 1967 (Carleton), B.A.(Chicago)
 Edward R. Schwarz, Ph.D. expected 1968 (Alberta), Ph.D.(Boston), S.T.M. (Southern Methodist), B.Ed. & B.D. (Alberta)
 Glen S. Shortliffe, Ph.D. in progress (Alberta), B.A. (Alberta)

FIRST YEAR COURSES OFFERED:

- *Accounting 11 – Principles of Accounting
- *Economics 10 – Principles of Economics
- *History 12 – Europe since 1500
- *Political Science 11 – Introduction to Political Science
- *Psychology 11 – Introduction to Psychology
- *Sociology 11 – Introduction to Sociology

EXTENSION COURSES OFFERED:

- *Economics 27 – Economic History of Europe
- *History 23 – Canadian History
- *History 24 – Europe in Transition (1300- 1600)
- Political Science 22 – Comparative Government
- *Political Science 23a – Canadian Government (half course)
- *Political Science 24b – American Government (half course)
- *Psychology 23 – Psychology of Industry and Work
- *Psychology 30 – Personality and Adjustment
- *Sociology 21 – Sociology of the Family

* All courses with an asterisk appear certain to be offered; others are dependent on registration. Additional extension courses may be scheduled if there is sufficient demand.

For further information write or phone:

THE REGISTRAR, ALGOMA COLLEGE

474 Northern Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario Telephone 236-7461