

initiatives

Innovation Happens in Manitoba

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG LAUNCHES COMMUNITY INTERNET ACCESS SITE ON CAMPUS

Students in the Learning Commons at the University of Winnipeg.



The 'Learning Commons' is the title that appears above the entrance to the computer lab.

U of W plans to have various types of learning commons rooms throughout the upper mezzanine.

A few of the mentioned rooms were a math room, science room, and a media room where students could even watch MuchMusic.

JUNE, 2002 – WINNIPEG, MB – The climax of a year of planning has produced a very comfortable and attractive Community Connections lab on the 4th floor at the University of Winnipeg. 17 brand new computers have been installed in the upper mezzanine of the U of W campus, free for public usage. Friday June 7th was their launch.

Industry Trade and Mines, Minister MaryAnn Mihychuk, was in a jubilant mood as she joked with the audience about the cost of the site, and the length of the scheduled 12-page speech, "it's three o'clock on Friday afternoon who wants to hear a long speech?"

Highlighting key milestones of the Community Connections Initiative, Minister Mihychuk indicated that this access site gives "hope for the community."

She is also excited to see such an ambitious site in this location and believes it will be a "great" benefit to the surrounding area. Minister Mihychuk is no stranger to the U of W. She earned an Honors Bachelor of Science at the U. of W., before going on to receive her Masters in Geology from Brock University in St. Catherines, Ontario.

Until now the university has only had a patchwork of temporary access sites available, mostly in their library. In the last year alone three hundred classes have been taught at their temporary installations. With this new 'Learning Commons', the library can go back to the peace and quiet of a reading and research facility.

U of W hopes that not only the students use the site but they would like to see the community get some good use out of the computer lab also.

The room is open and available for use by the general public as well as students between the hours of 8 am and 11:30 pm Tuesday and Thursday, or Saturday and Sunday between the hours of 11 am and 7 pm.

The lab is also an ideal place to teach classes. One of the computers is hooked up to a large projector touch screen, allowing the class and professors to view course material from the main computer as well as research material from relevant internet websites.

Industry, Trade and Mines
www.gov.mb.ca/itm

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