



News Release

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NMCC and Katahdin Trust Company officials launch new College wireless network

Aroostook County - With wire cutters in hand, the presidents of Northern Maine Community College and Katahdin Trust Company today ushered in a new era in technology on the NMCC campus at a unique event in the Edmunds conference center at the College.

The “wire cutting” ceremony, officially launching NMCC’s new wireless computer network, was led by Timothy Crowley, NMCC president, and Jon Prescott, president and CEO of Katahdin Trust Company, which donated \$25,000 to the College and Community Advancement Fund of the *Campaign for the County’s College* to purchase the new technology.

The twist on the traditional ribbon cutting ceremony held when a new business officially opens its doors to the public marked the first day of wireless network computing on the Presque Isle campus.

Funds provided by Katahdin Trust, a lead contributor to the first-ever major gifts campaign undertaken by NMCC, allowed the College to establish the infrastructure for a campus-wide wireless network and to purchase and install wireless access points in the Edmunds and Christie Building complex. The facility houses NMCC’s primary classroom, public meeting, and administrative office space, as well as the College library and learning center.

The initial infrastructure will allow NMCC to, in time, build on the backbone and expand wireless access across the entire campus. It will further ensure that the College can maintain a secure, manageable network at a greatly reduced cost.

“Katahdin Trust Company’s gift to the *Campaign for the County’s College* will have a significant and positive impact on our campus community. Users of this new technological infrastructure will be provided the opportunity to take advantage of the latest technology, mobility, the Internet, and access to College resources through a safe and secure network,” said Crowley. “This is an important development for NMCC, and we thank our friends at Katahdin Trust and our employees who made this day possible.”

Students, faculty, and staff will be the first beneficiaries of the system; however, in the coming weeks the wireless network will be made available to business and industry representatives and community members who visit or hold events on the college campus in the facilities where the wireless technology is activated.

That connection with the community, coupled with the strong ties that exist between NMCC and Katahdin Trust Company, were two primary reasons why the Northern Maine financial institution elected to direct their gift to the wireless network initiative.

“Many of our employees have attended this fine institution which has served as our region’s source of affordable, accessible postsecondary education opportunities, workforce training, and continuing education for more than 40 years. We are pleased to pledge our support for this very important initiative,” said Prescott.

In addition to the corporate donation of \$25,000, Katahdin Trust Company, last week, invited their 150 employees to consider joining the bank in assisting NMCC by investing in the College’s future. Employees were given the opportunity to give to the *Campaign for the County’s College* through payroll deduction or make a direct gift to the institution. As an incentive, Katahdin officials announced the company will match dollar for dollar all employee contributions up to a total of \$1,000 per employee.

“Higher education and economic development are critical to a community’s viability, and we are pleased to support Northern Maine Community College, which has been and continues to be a vital partner in the economic development of our market area,” said Prescott.

Katahdin Trust Company, the largest community bank in northern Maine, provides banking services to individuals and businesses from 14 offices located in Ashland, Caribou, Eagle Lake, Easton, Fort Fairfield, Houlton, Island Falls, Limestone, Mars Hill, Oakfield, Patten, Presque Isle, Van Buren and Washburn, online at www.katahdintrust.com, and operates a loan production office, Maine Financial Group, in Scarborough.

The *Campaign for the County’s College*, established to raise \$2 million over the next year to both support student scholarships and instructional technology, as well as to assist the College in new and ongoing efforts to respond promptly to community needs, is named to reflect both the impact of the campus in the region as well as how the College community mirrors the aspirations of Aroostook and its people.

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Participating in the unique “wire cutting” ceremony to launch the new wireless network at Northern Maine Community College were (left to right) Robert Clark, tri-chair of the Campaign for the County’s College; Raynold Gauvin, chair of the NMCC Foundation Board; Timothy Crowley, NMCC president; Jon Prescott, president and CEO of Katahdin Trust Company; and Vicki Smith, senior vice president for marketing at Katahdin Trust Company.