



Kris Doody-Chabre  
 Chief Executive Officer, Cary Medical Center  
 Member of the Governor's Community College Advisory Council

## Governor's Community College Advisory Council Findings Presented

Kris Doody-Chabre, chief executive officer of Cary Medical Center and a member of the Governor's Community College Advisory Council, presented the Council's findings to NMCC employees and Aroostook County media on November 16 at the College. She highlighted several items from the report, which was distributed in its entirety to all participants. The most surprising finding, according to Doody-Chabre, was that Maine has the smallest community college system in the nation, with less than one percent of Maine's population enrolled. The Council's goal is to reach the national average of three percent with 10 years.

**They are recommending a \$20.3 million initial investment in the Maine Community College System in order to:**

- Support occupational and transfer mission (*an additional 4,000 students*)
- Ensure affordable access (*more resources for financial aid*)
- Provide convenient geographic access (*expand off-campus centers*)
- Help more high school students go to college (*an additional 1,000 HS students served*)
- Expand customized training and entrepreneurship programs (*Maine Quality Centers services provided to an additional 800 trainees*)

**The Council is also recommending a major capital improvements bond issue to update and expand facilities.**

During the press event, NMCC President Tim Crowley noted the impact this funding could have on Northern Maine Community College. Most importantly, this funding would allow the college to:

- Add new faculty to "grow" high demand programs, such as nursing/allied health and the three transportation programs.
- Develop programs to proactively meet the needs both of businesses currently in the community and those looking to locate here.
- Keep up with changes in technology.
- Increase student support services, particularly by adding staff in those areas with high student need, such as financial aid.

He underscored the fact that the Governor's Community College Advisory Council was comprised of a diverse group of key people from across the state... which ultimately gives even more credence to their recommendations.



President Tim Crowley, Northern Maine Community College



Approximately 30 employees and college friends attended the 11:00 a.m. press conference unveiling the Governor's Community College Advisory Council findings locally. A statewide event was held simultaneously at Southern Maine Community College.