

# news@niagara

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this summer

## \$157,000 to pave parking lot

By SANDOR LIGETFALVY  
Staff Writer

Niagara College forked out \$860,000 last year for facilities renewal projects and may pay up to \$550,000 this year for repairs and restorations.

The college's facilities management services supervisors are spearheading a five-year plan to renew buildings and property at Welland and Glendale campuses. The repairs and renovations include parking lots, roofs and offices.

Re-roofing Mackenzie cost \$370,000 from the facilities renewal budget and delayed plans to fix the half-paved half-gravel parking lot outside of the residence.

Other projects last year included: \$22,000 to repave the entrance for parking lot G (accessed from Woodlawn Avenue); \$164,000 to repave a parking lot at Glendale campus; 10 to 15 smaller projects ranging \$5,000 to \$40,000, one of which was the building of the human resources offices and boardroom near the Voyageur Wing.

Big-ticket items this year include repaving the residence parking lot and the likely replacement of the chiller, the air-cooling system, worth at least \$200,000.

Julia Bertollo, manager of Facilities Management (FMS) at the Welland campus, says a lack of a plan is what has caused widespread disrepair.

Parking lot F was sent for tender last year but the money was not available because of the expensive emergency re-roofing of the Mackenzie building in Welland campus.

Chris Rendell, purchasing agent for the college, says, "It's no good to have a leaking roof in a building, it will just cause more damage. In situations like that, you put off the parking lot."

He says, "FMS will look at what they have to work with and make decisions based on that."

The \$157,000 contract to repave the residence parking lot (F) was awarded to NorJohn of Thorold, Ont. NorJohn was the lowest bidder of six acceptable replies to the college's tender document sent out in early June. The replies ranged from the low-ball \$157,000 to as high as \$214,000.

The lot will be completely dug out and repaved between Aug. 5 to Aug. 25. John Stiefelmeyer of NorJohn says they will have "no

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The holes in the Welland campus' parking lot F, next to the residence, will disappear this summer. The repaving will cost \$157,000.

Photo by Sandor Ligetfalvy

## After Hours gets new look

By AZRA MOMIN  
Staff Writer

There's something going on at the After Hours building.

Students walking into the pub in September will see the fruits of this activity: a whole new look.

"It's the timing that was really weird, because we rent out the building," says Cindy Blanchard, general manager of the Student Administrative Council (SAC) at the Welland campus.

The pub is available for rent to outside clients, and the makeover was fitted between rentals. The project will be ongoing until September but some of it was completed by June 7.

The new look includes fresh paint on the walls of the main pub room and the recreation room, as well as all the ceilings and hall-

ways. Most of this was done by the June 7 deadline to accommodate rental bookings. The main room is scheduled to be painted next.

SAC has a capital reserve fund that puts aside \$37,000 a year for capital expenditure, with any surplus budget going into the surplus fund.

The project cost is estimated at about \$50,000, coming from the reserve fund.

Mark Hardwick, SAC president, says it's been a while since the pub had a makeover.

"You're looking at when it was redesigned in the late '90s, in 1997, I think."

He says they want to make the pub look "less dingy."

"We do an annual tour of the building and there's a whole list that we refer to for replacing certain

items every year," says Blanchard. "This year it's the paint and the furniture in the recreation room."

Tiles replaced the carpet in the recreation room, which is called The Comfort Zone. A third television set is being added, as is new lounge furniture.

The cement patio will be power washed. Inside, the food bank is being relocated to another room, making it bigger and more accessible to students. The former location of the food bank has become an office for Chris Williams, director of communications, and the SAC office itself was repainted.

Blanchard says SAC is working on a program layout for the pub, and will have Comedy Night on the first and third Wednesday of the month. The second Wednesday will

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