

CHAMPLAIN IB DIPLOMA PROGRAM WINS 2006 THOMAS HAGOORT AWARD

The IB diploma program, offered at Champlain St. Lambert since 1991, has been awarded the 2006 Thomas Hagoort Award. This prestigious international award, which is accompanied by a cheque for \$2,500 US, is presented each year by the International Baccalaureate Organization in New York to the IB school in North America and the Caribbean which has the most innovative and effective program in place for fostering international understanding. This year Champlain St. Lambert was presented with this award in recognition of the work done over the past four years by IB students at the college as part of their annual humanitarian aid trip to Nicaragua. Each January a team of 12 to 16 IB students leave Montréal for a two week stay in Nicaragua. While there, they help in the construction of a pre-school in a rural area outside of Nicaragua's capital city, Managua. Before leaving on the trip IB students engage in a variety of fundraising activities to raise the funds required to pay for all of the construction material to be used in the building of the pre-school. Apart from helping to construct the pre-school IB students also visit sites of interest in Nicaragua and spend time with host families. The Nicaragua trip makes the IB diploma program at Champlain St. Lambert a very special educational experience – one that has now received international recognition.

Champlain St. Lambert is the first, and only, CEGEP in Québec offering the IB diploma program to have received this award.