

# Inti College to invest RM100mil in Bandar Baru Samariang campus

By JACK WONG in Kuching

INTI College Sarawak will invest some RM100mil in its proposed purpose-built permanent campus project in Bandar Baru Samariang, about 7 km north of Kuching.

The college owner, Inti IABS Sdn Bhd, yesterday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the purchase of 46ha valued at about RM12mil from Projek Bandar Samariang Sdn Bhd for the campus site.

The signatories for the MoU were Inti IABS chairman Datin Lillah Mohd Salleh and Projek Bandar Samariang managing director Robert Geneid. Sarawak Assistant Minister in the Chief Minister's Office Datuk Awang Tengah Ali Hassan witnessed the ceremony.

Inti College Sarawak managing director William Tan said the proposed permanent campus project would be developed in five phases over five to eight years.

The first phase, which is expected to begin in 2003 for completion in 2005, will comprise a main administrative block, an academic centre, a library, a cafeteria and related facilities.

The development, costing RM25mil to RM30mil, will include hostels for 1,000 students.

According to Tan, more academic facilities and hostels would be built under phases two and three to increase accommodation to up to 3,000 students.

"By 2005, the student population of Inti College Sarawak is expected to grow to more than 4,000. About



William Tan (right) briefing Datuk Awang Tengah (second right), Datin Lillah Mohd Salleh and others on the proposed Inti College Sarawak campus in Kuching.

3,000 students will be moved to the new permanent campus while the others will stay put at the present city campus," he added.

Tan said the new permanent campus, which would have a maximum intake of 5,000 students, would cater to the increasing number of foreign

students. It would also provide more facilities for research and development activities.

He said about RM20mil had been invested to develop the existing campus at Jalan Stampin Timur.

Inti College Sarawak, which now has 335 international students from

nine countries, operates a branch campus in Jakarta.

It was the first private college in Sabah and Sarawak and was accorded the Multimedia Super Corridor status last year. The college also obtained the ISO9002 certification recently.