



Sault College Annual Report 2008-2009

get inspired

SAULT COLLEGE 2008-2009 ANNUAL REPORT

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Winter scene of college campus

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



As a member of the Board of Governors of Sault College for several years, I continue to be impressed with how this learning organization is rising to meet the needs of our community and the public it serves.

Through providing transformational learning opportunities at the post-secondary level to students

in our local area, and to those who travel here from other corners of the province, we strengthen the local workforce and community, along with our greater society.

This year has seen many positive changes for the College. Under the direction of new leadership, we have ventured out on a path of growth and renewal. For many of us watching and participating, it is exciting to see a renaissance of sorts at our local institution.

This past year has seen, among other things, the arrival of Ministry's Second Career initiative to retrain our workforce in a changing economy. The response of the College has been to expand its access and availability, providing January starts as well as increased off-campus offerings. Doing so, coupled with new and innovative marketing, recruitment and promotional activity has risen the profile of our College.

In addition, several grand openings of state-of-the-art facilities on campus speak to the College's on-going commitment to innovation and progress. The Multimedia Centre, wind turbine, and the Brookfield Renewable Power Energy Training Centre all point the way to a new society where the environment and renewable energy are central to the way we learn and do business.

These are only some of the many progressive initiatives being undertaken by College staff to introduce the community to what Sault College has to offer. We look with hope to the provincial and federal government to renew Canada's infrastructure particularly in relation to post secondary education as we embark on our largest capital construction campaign since the original building of the College. We hope that the creation of modern green buildings will replace existing ones and allow us to provide the very best learning environment for our students and working conditions for our dedicated staff while being as energy efficient as possible.

So much is happening that demonstrates the vibrant learning community the College is creating and the tremendous potential it holds for future growth. The city of Sault Ste. Marie and the Algoma region are, indeed, strengthened by the fact that we have Sault College in our community.

We thank you for your support of Sault College and we look forward to continuing to work together to create an exceptional College community from which we and our children and grandchildren will reap benefits in years to come.

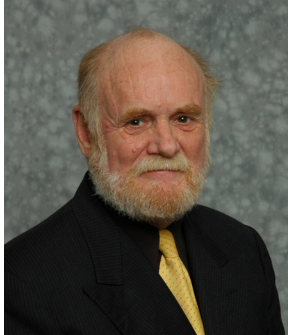
There is no better time to be at Sault College!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ben Pascuzzi', written over a thin horizontal line.

Ben Pascuzzi
Chair, Sault College
Board of Governors

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



What an exciting year this has been for Sault College. This year, we set the stage for success in many different ways.

Our College is working collaboratively to improve the ways in which we deliver education in Ontario. Learning to be responsive to the needs of a changing workplace and workforce

in the midst of economic uncertainty is the key to any successful post-secondary organization.

We are pleased that Sault College has, indeed, been up for the challenge. Some of our new initiatives this year include:

- Aircraft Structural Repair Technician program offered in London, Ontario
- Personal Support Worker program in Wawa, Ontario
- Construction Trades Worker program offered in Elliot Lake, Blind River and Serpent River First Nation.

We will continue to develop and introduce exciting new programs in the near future with our progressive academic plan. We will work with the community to create a dynamic new strategic plan for our organization. We will continue to build on the exciting initiatives we implemented this year and as outlined in these pages.

Our supportive and knowledgeable faculty and staff, our personalized student services, and our invaluable outreach to the community are a winning combination that those in Sault Ste. Marie and beyond are noticing.

Our community partners, our dedicated advisory committee/council members, Board of Governors, Ministry, and most of all, staff and students make Sault College great. There is no end to what we can accomplish.


We look forward to continuing to grow our organization in innovative ways far into the future, and we are pleased with the progress we have made so far.

Thank you for celebrating our achievements with us.

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "RW Common". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Dr. Ron Common
President, Sault College

A young man with short brown hair, wearing a white lab coat, is looking through the eyepiece of a light microscope. He is holding a blue pen in his right hand. In the background, another student is also working at a microscope. The setting is a laboratory.

Sault College seeks to inspire greatness and a desire for life-long learning in the people who learn and work with us.

Student analyzes data in Sault College research lab

ABOUT SAULT COLLEGE

Sault College attracts and motivates students by offering a wide range of strong educational programs taught by a progressive and supportive faculty who provide a transformational learning experience for students who learn here. By working to establish an environment where learning and helping to improve society are central tenets of the Sault College experience, we are contributing to the betterment of society by creating a strong and innovative workforce that can carry our province, country and the world to new places in the future.

Located in the northern Ontario community of Sault Ste. Marie, Sault College reaches more than 5,600 students annually through post secondary, continuing education, apprenticeship training and third party contract training. We are one of 24 publicly-funded community colleges in Ontario.

Full-time and part-time opportunities are available at the College in more than 70 different one, two, three and four-year post-secondary programs. This wide variety of options provides extensive choices to serve both the interests and professional needs of those wanting to stay and learn in our northern region, as well as those who travel to Sault Ste. Marie from southern Ontario and beyond.

Programs in areas such as business, computer studies, engineering technology, health sciences, human services, natural resources and technical trades are offered at the College. In addition, apprenticeship programs, adult education, and employer-based contract training programs are delivered that enrich the learning experience of students as well as ensure residents are active in the local workforce.

The Community Employment Programs Department administers Job Connect services in Sault Ste. Marie as well as in district offices in Blind River and Elliot Lake. In Sault Ste. Marie, the department also delivers Sault Jobs

Canada, which assists laid-off workers to access training and experience opportunities. The Sault Ste. Marie programs are offered in partnership with Sault College, the Sault Community Career Centre, and the Sault Family YMCA.

A new government strategy geared towards the “Second Career” learner provides financial/tuition assistance to students studying in specific program areas. Sault College staff have been working diligently to identify fast turnaround programs that offer strong employment opportunities for second career graduates in a new government training strategy to help mature learners re-enter the workforce quickly after having been laid off from employment.

Linda Ryan, Director of Community Employment Programs, Sault College, hosted the Honourable John Milloy, Minister of Training, Colleges & Universities in August of 2008, when he toured the Employment Connections Offices in downtown Sault Ste. Marie and discussed the government’s Second Career Strategy initiative with staff. Suggestions our team offered to the Minister during their discussion were heard and employees were pleased to see several adaptations made to the Second Career application process after the Minister’s travel around the province for feedback.

In January 2009, Sault College increased January Starts to accommodate local needs and respond to the provincial government’s Second Career program. Staff and faculty worked together to make this happen. They succeeded in their efforts. More than 100 students started their academic programs with us in January, which enhanced our enrolment and provided increased access and opportunity to those who found themselves without work and did not want to wait until the following September to begin their study and training.

Students who attend our school are situated at the hub of three of the largest fresh-water lakes in the world, with

Increasingly, students from outside of our traditional catchment area are learning about the strength of our programs and faculty, as well as the uniqueness of our location, and are travelling to the Sault Ste. Marie area to benefit from attending College here.

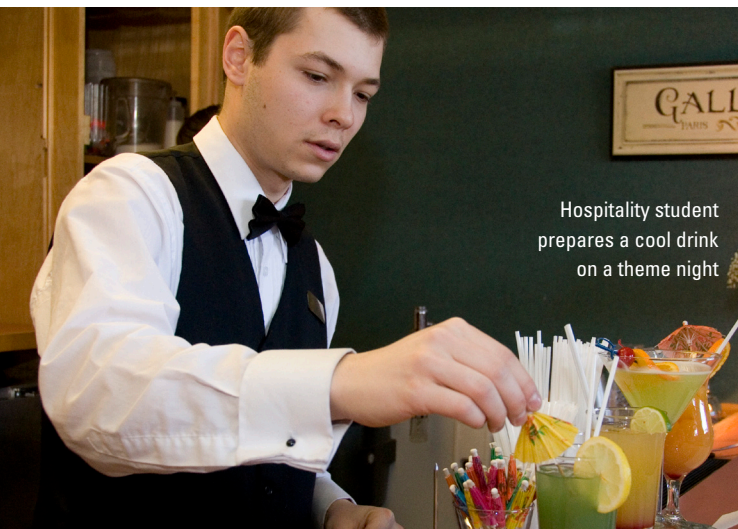
access to Lakes Superior, Huron and Michigan. These lakes allow students to enjoy all of the opportunities that this close proximity brings – from recreation to field-based learning – throughout the academic year.

Post-secondary students who relocate to the Sault Ste. Marie area for College strengthen both our College with increased enrolment in an otherwise declining population, but also contribute to a stronger local economy as their presence stimulates the local economy and the retailers within it.

Sault College also provides access to the growing field of distance education and continuing education courses.

As a Contact North site, students from across Canada can access web-based courses, video-conferencing and independent study programs so that they can further their education without leaving their families, employers, and/or communities while studying. We recognize the changing face and experience of students – and their increasingly complex circumstances are ones to which we must adapt to in order for student success to happen.

As an institution of higher learning, we are continually seeking new and innovative ways in which we can anticipate and accommodate the needs of our students so that they get the education they need to strengthen the workforce of Ontario and our country.



Hospitality student prepares a cool drink on a theme night



Non-traditional students in the trades are also supported at Sault College

Among the unique features that set us apart, Sault College is the only College in the province that offers an on-campus 55-hectare wood lot that is explored daily by students studying here.

This Outdoor Laboratory is a parcel of land adjacent to the Sault College campus and within the city of Sault Ste. Marie. Approximately 20 hectares of this land provides advanced forest cover, with the remaining area in various stages of natural succession. As an outdoor classroom, this site includes over 10 distinct ecological communities and is used daily by over 200 students in 5 different programs. We are the only college in Ontario with an outdoor learning lab adjacent to the school, and many students that come to Sault College tell us that this is one of the main reasons why they chose to study with us.

Sault College also offers the only remote-controlled on-campus water-treatment plant and fully functioning wind turbine that supplies energy for our student life centre. Our wind turbine sets us apart as a green College, also allowing our electrical and mechanical students to understand the functionality, process and repair system of turbines so that they are employable in another specialized and increasingly popular area.

Home to the largest wind farm in Canada, our community is the renewable energy centre of Canada with many major Natural Resources organizations close at-hand. This provides exceptional learning opportunities to our students.

Through their work placements, all students contribute to a more enhanced workplace while gaining critical on-the-job knowledge and experience. They return to the College to discuss and process what they have learned and seen, and in this way, the theory that students learn in our classrooms and labs is enhanced. Through many of the work placements that occur during the course of study with us, our students bring value to the places where they learn, and the employers who welcome them have new ideas infused into their places of work as well as have a chance to sample the strengths and uniqueness that each of our students brings with them. In this way, placements work to strengthen our community and the society at large.



Minister Milloy meets with our partner Karol Rains of Sault Community Career Centre, Linda Ryan, and David Oraziotti, MPP

Our strong relationships with local and regional employers also strengthen the learning experience of our students.

STUDENT SUCCESS

The continued success of our students is central to all that we do.

Convocation ceremonies held at Essar Centre on May 23, 2008 conferred 775 candidates for graduation. Approximately 450 graduates were in attendance. The health sciences programs conferred 179 students including 35 students in the bachelor of science nursing program, 36 personal support worker students and 41 students from the practical nursing program. The aviation program graduated 33 students and 40 students graduated in the police foundations and law and security administration programs. Another 171 students were candidates in computer studies, engineering technology and technical trades programs.

Apprenticeship enrolment at Sault College has increased significantly this academic year with 400 apprentices having enrolled in these programs. This is nearly double that of 2007-08, when 207 apprentices were registered with the College. This speaks to the college's ability to help train these individuals and thereby strengthen a workforce that will

The College's three pillars of success – with students, the community, and as an institution, as outlined in the College's 2004-2009 Strategic Plan, will be the focus of the 2008/2009 Sault College Annual Report, thereby highlighting the achievements and successes of our students, faculty and staff, all of whom contribute to a strong and progressive community.



Krysta Waldorf, BScN



Indian Friendship Centre students receive money raised by Social Service Worker – Native Specialization program

see a great number of retirements, particularly in the trades, for years to come.

Health Science students took a lead role in organizing a major community event this past year. Sault College nursing students won a bid to host the regional conference for the Canadian Nursing Students Association (CNSA) in Sault Ste. Marie. Fourth year nursing student Krysta Waldorf chaired a highly successful Canadian Nursing Students Association CNSA Ontario Regional Conference in Sault Ste. Marie on October 24-26, 2008. Several other Sault College nursing students were involved in the planning. With over 100 delegates in attendance, students showcased Sault College and the community to health care providers from around the country. Krysta was nominated for Colleges Ontario Student Innovation award for her contribution to this event. The organizing committee was recognized for their efforts at the CNSA National Conference.

The Sault College Student Administrative Council (SAC) held a memorable Federal All Candidates Debate in October, 2008 which brought record crowds, media, as well as documentary film director Michael Moore to the Outback

Student Life Centre. Kim Ward, our Vice-President of Communications with SAC was instrumental to making this happen. The event greatly increased exposure to the College across Canada and into the United States.

Other successful students and graduates included Sonny Spina, our Premier's Award nominee and 2008 Police Officer of the Year; Stefan Shrykorenko, our out-going SAC President and nominee for Colleges Ontario Student Leadership award; and Robin Neveau for her assistance with the Aboriginal Health certificate funding initiative.

ENROLMENT SUCCESSES

Post Secondary: 1850 including 1,200

local and district students

Continuing Education: 1691

Apprenticeship Training: 400

Third Party Contract Training: 1876

Job Seeker Connections: 900



Sonny Spina with brother-in-law at Easter Seals event



Michael Moore with Kim Ward during his visit to the campus for All-Candidates debate

STUDENTS SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

Our students present themselves with confidence and professionalism as they demonstrate their compassion, concern and care for others.

Sault College students from most programs across the campus continue to participate in a variety of fundraisers that benefit the local community. They do so as part of their programs of study as well as with the Student Administrative Council.

Here are some highlights of student projects and activities that occurred during the 2008/2009 academic year:

- In their eighth annual event, third year students in the Child and Youth Worker program at Sault College hosted their annual “We All Love Kids” W.A.L.K on Saturday April 12th, 2008. More than \$9,000 was raised by this event, mostly in the form of pledges and the fundraising event was one that Sault College third-year CYW students conducted for their course in community development under the supervision of Michael McFarling, Professor and Coordinator of the CYW program and Colleges Ontario Distinguished Service award nominee. Proceeds went towards multi-sensory equipment for the Snoezelen room at Anna McCrea elementary school.
- Culinary and Hospitality students partnered with the Rotary club to bake cookies in support of Easter Seals Ontario. In this fifth annual partnership, proceeds from more than 2000 cookies were donated to The Easter Seals Telethon fundraising campaign. Throughout the year, Hospitality and Culinary students also hosted numerous themed dinners which were well received by the community.
- Natural Environment and Outdoor Studies students participated with agencies such as the Ministry of Natural Resources, and Bird Studies Canada as participants in a wood turtle habitat enhancement project, a white-tailed deer Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) sampling survey, sandhill crane behaviour surveys, owl surveys, marsh



Child and Youth Worker W.A.L.K. participants with College mascot



Income tax preparation service with Professor Dunlop and students

monitoring, woodcock surveys, Project Cat (eastern cougar remote camera and DNA sampling), and assisted the Sault Ste Marie District Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) with their deer and turkey harvest data collection on St. Joseph Island among other community outreach activities.

- Second year Accounting students practice classroom techniques in a free tax return preparation service for the general student population at Sault College.
- The Occupational Therapist Assistant/Physiotherapist Assistant program launched a Sports Injury and Physiotherapy Centre in January 2009, open to students and staff of Sault College. This clinic responds to creating meaningful work placement opportunities for students as well as treating student, staff and in particular varsity athletes on campus. Using the expertise of trained faculty, physiotherapy services are free to students and staff of Sault College.
- Collaborative Bachelor of Science Nursing students provided information to fellow students and staff with informative displays on a variety of topics including sun safety and sleep problems during their annual Health Fair.
- Aboriginal poverty issues were presented by Sault College students in an end of term presentation in April, by the first-year Social Service Worker – Native Specialization students, as part of their Canadian Social Welfare and Aboriginal Social Policy class. Students facilitated a presentation for local agencies/services working with Aboriginal populations, as well as their peers

in the Community Service programs at Sault College. They raised \$1,025 to support children in the community and presented to the Indian Friendship Centre. Students often use informational displays to extend their message to others in the college community regarding numerous issues affecting our student population.

- Algoma University and Sault College, along with the Shingwauk Anishinaabe Students Association and Sault College Native Student Council worked together to organize a community pow wow to celebrate life long learning. This event demonstrated both the strength and value of a vibrant Aboriginal culture and people to our community.

In all of these ways, students have worked to enrich the lives of others, and in many cases, developed a keen sense of social justice by contributing to community initiatives and actively giving back to others.



Students present information at BScN health fair



The success of off-campus initiatives spoke to the strength of our partnerships throughout the region, our ability to look for new and innovative ways to deliver education, and the strength of our staff who overcame many initial challenges to help make these happen.

NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS INTRODUCED 2008-2009

As our world changes, the ability to deliver academic programs in new and innovative ways becomes of utmost importance. As a college, we will continue to respond to the changing face of our students and the workplace in ways that make sense.

FULL-TIME

This academic year was instrumental in expanding intake dates, growing enrolment and re-positioning the College as one in which we deliver educational programs at locations other than the Sault Ste. Marie main campus.

Our organization established and ran several off-site offerings throughout the year that increased access to post-secondary education to those wanting to better their lives through attaining a College education.

For example:

- Sault College's Construction Trade Worker program graduated 13 students from the surrounding communities of Elliot Lake, Blind River and Serpent River First Nation in Elliot Lake, Ontario.
- The Aircraft Structural Repair program was reinstated and offered off campus in London, Ontario in a partnership with Fanshawe College with full enrolment of 27 students.
- The Anishnaabemowin immersion program was offered off-campus in partnership with the Kenjgewin Teg Education Institute, Manitoulin Island.
- The Personal Support Worker program was offered in Wawa, Ontario.
- Sault College had 764 students enrolled in distance education courses delivered with OntarioLearn this year, which represents tremendous growth over last year of 31.27%, making us the second highest of the five participating Northern colleges.
- In Academic Upgrading, our College was third in the province with respect to enrolment – surpassed only by Loyalist and Georgian.

PART-TIME

As our organization believes that one's passion for learning never ends, the following certificate programs were introduced this year:

- Foundations of Community Services Certificate
- Language Interpreter Certificate
- Supervisor Skills Development Certificate

Sault College also developed three new Continuing Education courses to help residents increase awareness about residential energy conservation and renewable energy options. The courses, offered free of charge, are Green Construction and Renovations, Home Energy Conservation, and Small Scale Renewable Energy. The first offering of these courses were very well-received by the community, with each course being filled, and a media presence at the launch of them.





It is our hope that this awareness of the College remains for years to come as the young campers grow and remember the fond summer memories they formed during their time here on the College campus.

Young YMCA summer campers present their designs at the grand opening of the Multimedia Centre

COMMUNITY SUCCESS

Sault College continues to demonstrate how our staff and students are important contributors in the Sault Ste. Marie community by partnering in ideas, facilities and human resources for sustainable growth within the Northern Ontario area.

The College continues to be a key part of local development.

In January 2009, Sault MPP David Oraziotti announced that the McGuinty government will open a new nurse practitioner clinic at Sault College by the end of 2009. As such, we will be the first College campus in Ontario to feature this unique and progressive initiative.

Sault College's commitment to a nurse practitioner clinic for the community stems from an interest in improving health services for citizens. A nurse practitioner clinic on campus will increase access to primary health care services. Many organizations have supported this important project. Debbie Graystone, lead nurse practitioner for the proposal, described the benefits of this exciting opportunity at the announcement for it, as it will contribute to the many efforts that are being made locally to ease the challenges in primary care provision in Sault Ste. Marie.

The shared location of the Community Employment Programs Department with the Sault Community Career Centre in Sault Ste. Marie results in reduced costs and excellent customer service opportunities for job seekers and employers.

Sault College sees the importance of partnering with external organizations to offer our facilities for community use. For example, Seedy Saturday, an ever-popular and expanding locally organized event, brought together a large number of people interested in gardening, in growing their own food, in buying local produce and in food security and environmental issues. These individuals came together in a large turn-out at the College to exchange or buy heritage varieties of vegetable and flower seeds, purchase local and area food products, participate in hands-on workshops, hear speakers and network. The ties into our environmental programs created synergies with the event.



Nurse practitioner group who worked on successful proposal with David Oraziotti, MPP

By bringing in the public for events hosted here at the College, we continue to be seen as an approachable "community" college. This increased exposure strengthens our position and visibility throughout the city and region.

The 2008 Environmental Award acknowledged Sault College's position in the forefront of conservation and energy management activities locally through our diverse range of Natural Environment and Outdoor Studies courses concentrating on renewable energy, conservation and management of natural resources.

Some other community events on campus included those that took place in the Native Centre such as "Love Your Language" Day, a Christmas Feast, a Visiting Elder, Taco Days/Soup/Scone Dog Days, Family Activities, Craft Nights, Spring/Fall Ceremonies, Traditional Teachings (men's, women's, medicine wheel), and Sharing Circles.



The grand opening of the wind turbine took place this year

Sault College and the Sault Family YMCA began a new partnership in the summer of 2008 to offer YMCA Summer Day Camps on site at Sault College. YMCA Day camps have provided fun, safe and character-building experiences for children and youth in Sault Ste. Marie for many years. This successful partnership allowed young elementary and highschool students to gain exposure to the College environment – including our classrooms, labs and other facilities in a very positive and nurturing way.

Sault College was the recipient of the 2008 Chamber of Commerce Environment Award, sponsored by the Sault Ste. Marie Economic Development Corporation. President Dr. Ron Common and Board Chair Ben Pascuzzi accepted the award at the Chamber Awards luncheon in October, 2008. The Environment Award honours businesses that have made a difference in making our environment better.

A Criminal Justice Career Fair was organized for students and the general public in March 2009 with a focus on education, qualifications and the hiring process. Representatives from local, provincial and national policing organizations expressed their increased personnel needs anticipated in upcoming years. Sault College continues to be a strong partner with policing organizations, with our students widely sought-after upon graduation.

TV Ontario's AgendaCamp with Steve Paikin aired their show with workshops throughout the day at the Sault College main campus in November, 2008. The event provided a unique and progressive learning opportunity to College students and staff who participated, as well as the local community. It also helped increase our exposure and presence as an innovative place of learning across the province and globe.

POST-SECONDARY PARTNERSHIPS

The presence of two universities in close proximity to our College has set the stage for strong partnerships for the education of our students, both with a diploma after completing a degree (to gain practical experience after university) and with a degree after a diploma.

Several projects began, continued or were completed with the newly independent Algoma University as well as Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan this year.

For example, we continue to work with Algoma University on an Honours Bachelor of Social Work degree, as funded by the College-University Consortium Committee (CUCC) that articulates with our Social Services Worker and Social Service Worker-Native Specialization programs. Work continues to be done on development of a Bachelor of Design with Algoma University, as well.

In addition, Sault College faculty served as Biology Program Advisory Committee members for Algoma University assisting with degree development. Sault College Dean Colin Kirkwood, as well as professors Teri Winter and Erwin Goertz in the Natural Environment and Outdoor Studies department served on this committee.

In addition to curriculum development and articulations, Sault College and Algoma University partnered to conduct collaborative faculty workshops in June 2008 and February 2009. In January of 2009, Sault College also had a joint session regarding the Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board (PEQAB), an advisory agency that makes recommendations to the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities on applications for ministerial consent on new program proposals.

Sault College continued to work with LSSU this year to articulate the Fitness and Health promotion program of the College to LSSU's Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science degree.

In May of 2008, 33 former Sault College dual enrollees graduated from LSSU in Law and Security Administration

(LASA), Police Foundations, Liberal Studies, and Fish & Wildlife programs. Further, in fall of 2008, 5 graduates of Law and Security Administration (LASA)/Police Foundations programs, 6 graduates of Liberal Studies program, and 1 student of the Sault College Fish & Wildlife program were on the Dean's list at LSSU (GPA of 3.5 or better). Further, in December of 2008, a Sault College Fish & Wildlife student graduated magna cum laude with a BS in Fisheries & Wildlife from LSSU.

Sault College reduced its travel costs by partnering with Algoma University to travel around the province to promote Sault Ste. Marie and our two educational institutions in remote Native communities this year. Feedback from these visits has been very positive, providing a strengthened partnership with Algoma University, as well.

In all of these ways, we celebrated our partnerships with Algoma University and Lake Superior State University as we advance together for the future of our students and graduates.



Faculty celebrating Convocation 2008 with students

RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH

The importance of reaching out in new and creative ways to potential students across the province to let them know of the tremendous opportunity Sault College offers them has never been more important to our organization.

An increase in school visits, provincial travel with College Information Program and remote visits to Aboriginal communities allowed applications to increase to College programs. Telephone calls and prompt follow-up emails and mail-outs helped contribute to a personal, professional touch for which Sault College is known. The addition of a dedicated Native Student Recruiter, Mel Peltier, to the Promotions team helped cement the alignment of Sault College's recruitment activities to Aboriginal communities. Funded by the Native Education and Training Council (NETC), this position allowed an ever-growing number of Native students to see Sault College as a destination of choice for their post-secondary education.

A successful proposal for funding from Health Canada, First Nations & Inuit Health Ontario Regions and the Chiefs of Ontario for the development of a Three Phased Bridging Program the Sault College staff wrote and submitted was accepted, creating a wonderful opportunity to enhance Sault

College's mandate to be a viable option and destination of choice with Native students.

Through a concentration on Native Health Careers, a video was made at Sault College with Robin Neveau, BScN student from Batchewana First Nation. Melvin Peltier, Native Student Recruiter for the College, partnered with faculty member Lori Matthews as they travelled throughout the province with new, state-of-the-art simulation mannequins and other health equipment. Workshops for elementary school children were held that explored the fun and exciting side of health care – these were held in local areas as well as remote Northern communities. Stated one mother on a revisit to see our College staff,

“We’ve been waiting to see you again – my child ran home all excited about what she had seen and had wanted me to meet you.”

In total, 1,750 of people were seen on these visits alone.



Robin Neveau, BScN,
Batchewana First Nation

In southern Ontario, Sault College has obtained the exclusive post-secondary rights to EduCast, a very popular fishing tournament and educational event for highschool students that took place for the first time this year. Our faculty members from the Natural Environment and Outdoor Studies programs travel to southern Ontario to attend the event, speaking about the educational opportunities at our College. This year, Teri Winter gave a workshop on invasive species to participants. The event provides a wonderful opportunity for increased awareness of our College to a direct target market in southern Ontario. In addition, the Canadian Aboriginal Festival and Toronto Homeshow are also very popular events that staff and faculty attend to promote the College in southern catchment areas.

We continue to find new ways to promote our College and academic programs. Staff, students and faculty at the College were actively involved at all levels in Open House events and school visits.

Doing so had great results, with several hundred potential students and their families in attendance.

Holding this event on a Saturday is more convenient for those from outside of our local area, whose parents usually do not want to take more than one day off of work to travel to visit a potential College. These efforts, combined with the activities of the School College Work Initiative, have increased awareness and applications to College programs among prospective students.



EduCast participant in southern Ontario



Student recruiters Shelby McClelland and Ray Escasa at Info Day



Culinary student Jennifer Woodbeck guides highschool participants in Show of Class culinary competition

PROMOTIONAL EVENTS

Hosting compelling events that inspire young minds to think and create in ways we have not yet imagined guarantees a new world with solutions that will lead us to greatness.

Knowing this, the College and school boards work together to introduce exciting learning opportunities for students at our institution of higher learning.

The Algoma Regional Planning team of the School College Work Initiative (SCWI) include the Algoma District School Board, the Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board and Sault College. In the Algoma district, the SCWI has provided opportunities for the two school boards and Sault College since 2003 to co-operatively generate new initiatives for students to become aware of college opportunities.

- Specialist High Skills major Pathways to College programs were introduced with curriculum pathways for several Sault College programs. Apprenticeship Works tours provided local high school students an opportunity to see program areas at Sault College. The School College Work Initiative brought Grade 9 students from the Sault and the Algoma district to campus and gave Grade 10 students the opportunity to shadow a college student.
- The second annual FIRST Lego League (FLL) competition for grade school students was held in November. Teams of 10 students worked extensively on programming and building robots and learning about renewable energy sources. It was a tremendous community event enjoyed by families across the district igniting an enthusiasm for discovery, science, and technology in elementary school students. Grade 11/12 work place tours and teacher/faculty development forums are other successful SCWI initiatives taking place.
- The dual credit program that offers career exploration opportunities in a variety of program areas has also been well received and has strong enrolment.
- The School College Connection program bridges students who have left high school early and provide them to complete these missed credits on campus at Sault College. This highly successful program is not only giving students a second chance, it is helping create a better society by ending cycles of poverty and strengthening the workforce.
- The first-ever “Show of Class” cooking competition for high school students allowed contestants to put their skills and passion to the test. Students had a demonstration of equipment and safe cutting techniques and kitchen tours, allowing local and district high school students the opportunity to incorporate the skills they are learning in the classroom setting towards a fun and exciting competition, as well as learn more about the College’s hospitality and culinary programs.
- The 19th annual Bridge Building Contest attracted more than 220 young people from grades 5-12, and is designed to connect young students to the engineering programs at Sault College. Sponsored by the Civil/Architectural/Construction Engineering Technician programs, the Ontario Association of Architects, the Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists, Professional Engineers of Ontario, and the Rotary Club of Sault Ste. Marie North, the ever-popular contest requires local students and young designers to build balsa-wood bridges which are then judged for functionality, originality and load-carrying capacity.

SUPPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY

One of the only Colleges in Ontario named after its community, Sault College has been a key presence in our local area for several decades. We continue to thrive, in large part, because of the current support we receive from employers, and citizens in Sault Ste. Marie and the surrounding area.

We are grateful for
your support.

Over the past year, numerous community donations have supported our scholarships, bursaries and awards program.

Sault College's 7th annual Savour the Night Appetizer Challenge held March 5, 2009 raised the most money ever for students. This important fundraiser featured food selections from some of the area's finest restaurants. Special thanks to Bridges (Holiday Inn), Chartwell's (Sault College Cafeteria), Joey Calzone's (Station Mall), The Pavilion (Water Tower Inn), Sacy's (Bay Mills Casino), Solo Trattoria



Savour the Night 2008
Appetizer Challenge participants

(Bay St.), and The Mountain Grill (Buttermilk Mountain Resort). All proceeds from this event went towards student scholarships and bursaries at Sault College.

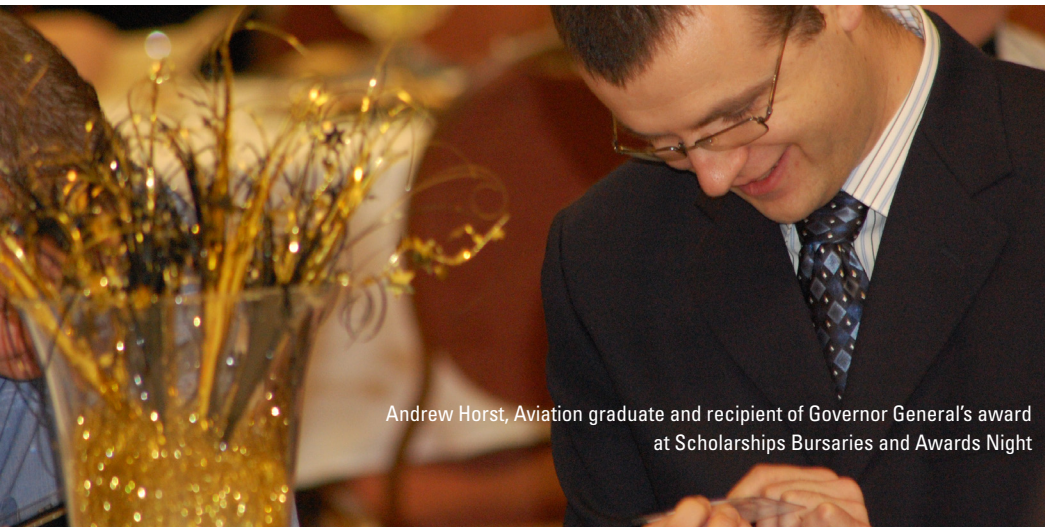
The United Way of Sault Ste. Marie awarded fourteen deserving students \$2500 each to study trades at Sault College in the fall of 2008. In a three year commitment, the United Way is providing a \$75,000 investment in local youth attending Sault College. This contribution demonstrates their dedication to post-secondary education and its value.

The Sault College's 36th annual Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards Event also took place in March, 2009. Sault College thanks community sponsors whose contributions make it possible for our students to achieve their academic goals. New awards include the Dr. (Mrs.) Alam Sundaram Memorial Scholarship, the Bill Armstrong Memorial Scholarship; and the Michael McFarling Recognition Award.

\$1.5 million was distributed by way of scholarships, bursaries and awards to approximately 1,500 students during the 2008/09 academic year.



Mr. Somu Sundaram presents a generous donation to Terry Ableson



Andrew Horst, Aviation graduate and recipient of Governor General's award at Scholarships Bursaries and Awards Night



Mrs. Hima Banerjee and son present memorial scholarship

INSTITUTIONAL SUCCESS

Institutional successes are a result of the dedication and commitment of our staff and our community partners.

We continue to build on past achievements as a learning organization and explore new ways to grow and develop. With approximately 850 full and part-time employees, Sault College is an integral part of the Sault Ste. Marie community from an economic and human resources capacity.

On July 17, 2008, the College celebrated the grand opening of the wind turbine and Brookfield Renewable Power Energy Training Centre. Blades of the Sault College wind turbine generate power for the Student Life Centre on campus, and the Brookfield Renewable Power Energy Training Centre is home to technology programs focussing on renewable energy sources.

Innovative ways to reach students included the launch of a student portal. In July, 2008, a student portal for all new and returning students provided online access to information about their timetables, unofficial transcripts, financial and academic information as well as class cancellations. This highly successful initiative has been very well-received by students and staff of the College.

The Accessibility Advisory Committee, comprised of community partners and College members, updated and posted the 2008/09 Accessibility Plan for the College. The plan describes the College's goals and commitment to provide a barrier-free learning and working environment, initiatives that the College has taken in the previous year to remove barriers as well as ongoing services and procedures that affect students and staff with disabilities.

College washrooms were retrofitted and, where possible, enhancements were made to reduce disability barriers. As renovations were completed, the possibility of reducing disability barriers was always considered. New chairs and desks were purchased for several classrooms to improve learning work spaces. Physical Resources initiated the campus re-build master plan.

The College's vision as an environmentally-friendly organization was further developed through professional development opportunities as well as campus-wide committees and campaigns. Dr. Thomas Homer-Dixon, author and keynote speaker presented "The Upside of Down - Catastrophe, creativity and the renewal of civilization" on June 5, 2008 as part of a professional development series. Dr. Homer-Dixon helped the audience understand how our world is changing by showing how challenges such as global warming, energy scarcity, economic instability, and the infoglut affect people, companies, and societies. With an active Go-green committee, recycling efforts, and non-smoking campaigns continue to spark campus interest at Sault College.

The year culminated in a Program Quality Assurance Process Audit that was developed through a joint government – college sector working group. Sault College successfully underwent this mandatory audit at the end of March, 2009, with the help of staff and community partners.

Key Performance Indicator (KPI) surveys tell us that we are succeeding as a college. This year, our College was number one in graduate satisfaction out of all twenty-four Ontario Colleges, meaning that when our graduates were contacted six months after they graduated with us, they were the most satisfied with their education than any other College student in the province on average.

Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
surveys tell us that we are succeeding as a college.

This is the third year in a row that Sault College has attained number one status in the province in one of the KPI categories.

Our rate of student satisfaction is also among the highest in the province, and we are proud of the staff and faculty that have been able to provide excellence in their services and programs so that students are supported as they study with us. We are also grateful to the students and graduates who have recognized the value of what we have provided to them. Approximately 88% of Sault College students are employed within six months of graduation, with employers telling us how pleased they are with the graduates that come to them after learning with us.

KPI* College highlights

- 90.4 per cent of employers were satisfied with the quality of the educational preparation of college graduates
- 87.8 per cent of college graduates found employment within six months of graduation
- 87.0 per cent of graduates were satisfied with the usefulness of their college education in achieving their goals after graduation

*(KPI data collected March 2008-February 2009)

College mascot builds excitement of recruitment event for visiting families





We see our alumni
as our greatest
ambassadors and one
of the keys to our
future success.



Sonny Spina, Sault College graduate
and Premier's award nominee

OUTSTANDING PEOPLE

Sault College is filled with people who want to make a difference. We know one of our key strengths are those who work to make our organization the educational destination it is today as well as an employer of choice.

The staff of the Aviation Program received the distinguished Royal Canadian Air Force Association President's Award, in recognition of the continued support given.

Enterprise Centre Sault Ste. Marie's Alynn Burke Award of Excellence went to another Sault College employee this year. Last year it went to Linda Ryan, the Director of Community Employment Programs. This year it went to the Anthony Oraziotti, Outback General Manager, recognizing Anthony's active involvement in youth entrepreneurship and youth empowerment in Sault Ste. Marie for over 5 years.

Sault College Governor Bob Wilding was nominated for Colleges Ontario William G. Davis Community Volunteer award in recognition of his dedication to the community and the College.

The total amount of money raised at the College for the United Way this year was \$11,146.60, with one individual Sault College employee donating over \$1,000. Special events to raise charitable funds held included College and student-sponsored special events such as Shoeshinearama, Wingy Wednesday Lunch & Silent Auction and Coffee Week (sponsored by Chartwells).

Sault College staff participated in numerous community-based activities throughout the year enhancing the College profile.

Teams participated in a wide variety of fund-raising activities over the past years, including the Dragon Boat races held on the St. Mary's River in Sault Ste. Marie, the Big Bike for Heart and Stroke and the Run for the Cure Breast Cancer event among others.



Sault College Run for the Cure fundraising team shows their spirit for the cause

With respect to professional development, there were 99 Support Staff who participated in Person to Person Disability Workshop, 115 faculty who attended the Assisting Ontarians with Disabilities workshop and 40 administrators who attended the Human Rights and the Duty to Accommodate workshop.

By attending these workshops, college staff learned about the important issues of accessibility and human rights related to those living with disabilities.

Four professional development sessions for managers were also held over the course of the year with an average of over 70% of administrative staff attending each session. Three sessions were modules from the Supervisor Professional Development Leadership Series and one additional session was held. A total of 25 formal Professional development workshops and seminars were held in the May/June 2008 period. A total of 325 staff members participated in the offered training, thereby strengthening their leadership abilities.

An Alumni Support Officer was hired in July 2008 to develop communications and linkages to alumni. With continued outreach to our alumni, we look to further strengthen our relationship with them.

The contributions of our alumni to their workplaces and society while claiming Sault College as their alma mater bodes well for the future of our organization.

Many alumni come back to the College to speak to our students, thereby increasing the linkages of our students to places of work, as well as opening their minds to the endless possibilities after graduation.

Jenny Romanchuk, a Sault College Graphic Design student who graduated in April, 2008 has created a highly popular website thezombiehunters.com, who received tens of thousands of hits every month. She looks to drawing and publishing a comic book.

In December of 2008, Jake Diebolt, a recent graduate of the GIS program at Sault College, won prestigious the ESRI Canada Scholarship award. Jake recently had the opportunity to be the Student Representative at the ESRI Regional User Conference in London Ontario. He was the only student speaking at this conference and gave a presentation based on his 'Lake Nipigon Deepwater Cisco Research Project' which was undertaken as part of the Sault College GIS program. Jake was invited to speak primarily due to being the recipient of the 2008 ESRI Scholarship Award this past year which is a significant accomplishment.

Within the College, the Human Resources department continues to honour service excellence among staff in the Northern Lights Awards program at the annual June employee luncheon.



Graphic Design show participants including Professor Terry Hill (back) and Jenny Romanchuk (right)

ADVISORY COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

Sault College is fortunate to have engaged and involved members from the local workforce on our advisory councils and committees. Because of their contributions to our local community College, expertise from those who are leaders in their fields is infused into the curriculum, continually strengthening and refining it.

This involvement gives opportunities to students who come to study here from across the province, as well as to those in northern Ontario who deserve excellence in education close to their communities.

Over 30 different advisory committees and councils inform the curriculum and academic program development at the College, ensuring involvement in community-based strategies from local leaders and experts. In March of 2009, an appreciation event was held in the Gallery at the College to thank all those who had supported us in this way.

Studies show that the participation of dedicated advisors makes a significant positive impact on the organization. With Sault College graduates the most satisfied in the province with their College education according to Key Performance Indicators (KPI), and over 90% of our grads getting work within six months of graduation, we know that we are succeeding, in large part due to our exemplary performance in delivering strong programs that are informed by marketplace trends.

We are able to achieve these satisfaction rates because of the willingness of our advisors to give of their time and expertise so that Sault College continues to grow and meet the needs of our learners.



The new Brookfield Renewable Power Energy Training Centre

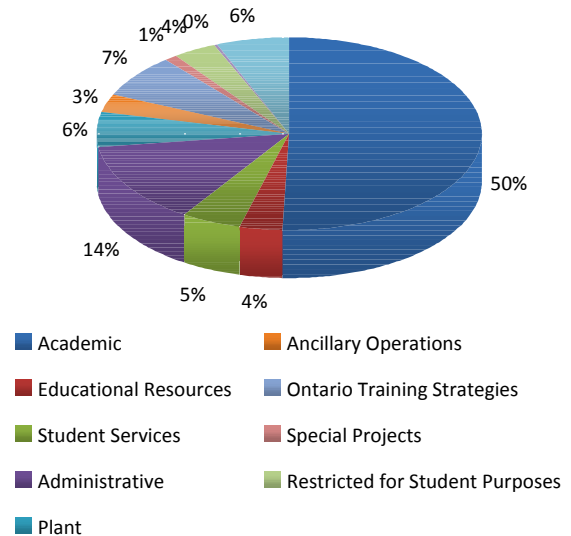
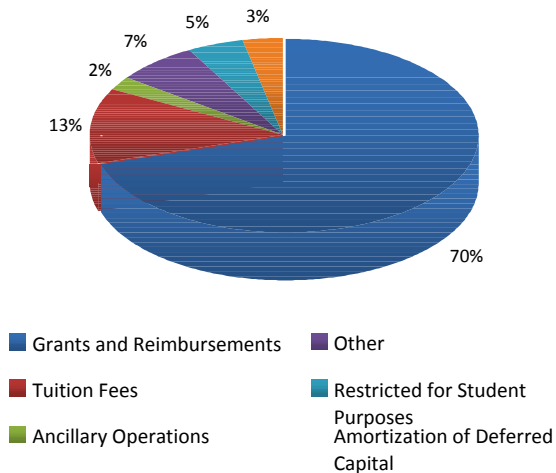
FINANCIAL RESULTS

The Sault College Board of Governors approved the 2009/10 operating budget as presented at the (April 2009) Board of Governors meeting. The College continues to operate within its financial means to remain a viable community educational institution into the future.

The College's strong fiscal position will enable it to continue to pursue new partnerships and program development. Of the \$41 million budget at the College, approximately \$37 million is spent locally.

A comprehensive hard copy of the audited financial statements is available upon request from the College's Marketing and Communications department, 705.759.2554, ext. 2830. The financial statements and this Annual Report are also available online at www.saultcollege.ca/Services/Communications/Corporate.asp

FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009



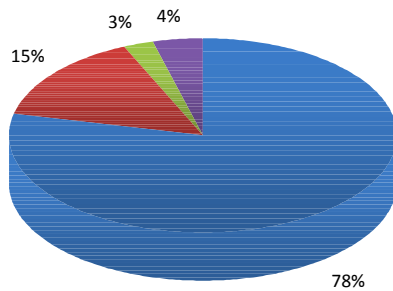
REVENUE

Grants and Reimbursements	32,192
Tuition Fees	5,796
Ancillary Operations	1,028
Other	3,100
Restricted for Student Purposes	2,274
Amortization of Deferred Capital	1,483
Total Revenues	45,873

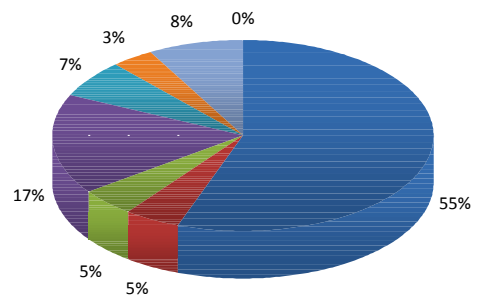
EXPENSES

Academic	21,905
Educational Resources	1,653
Student Services	2,091
Administrative	5,941
Plant	2,552
Ancillary Operations	1,325
Ontario Training Strategies	3,154
Special Projects	399
Restricted for Student Purposes	1,667
Provision for Employee Benefit Obligations	(127)
Amortization of Capital Assets	2,596
Total Expenses	43,156

2009 / 2010 CASH BASED OPERATING PLAN



- Grants and Reimbursements
- Tuition Fees
- Ancillary Operations
- Other



- Academic
- Educational Resources
- Student Services
- Administrative
- Plant
- Ancillary Operations
- Ontario Training

REVENUE

Grants and Reimbursements	32,555
Tuition Fees	6,125
Ancillary Operations	1,043
Other	1,754
Total Revenues	41,477

EXPENSES

Academic	23,394
Educational Resources	2,060
Student Services	2,031
Administrative	7,048
Plant	2,803
Ancillary Operations	1,426
Ontario Training Strategies	3,418
Special Projects	21
Total Expenses	42,201

LIST OF OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Dr. Ron Common, President
Janice Beatty, Vice-President, Human Resources and Student Services
Max S. Liedke, Chief Financial Officer
Judi Maundrell, Vice President, Academic (until May, 2008)
Leo Tiberi, Vice President, Academic (started August, 2008)

COLLEGE DEANS

Colin Kirkwood, Dean of Technology, Skilled Trades, Natural Environment and Outdoor Studies
Fran Rose, Dean of Health and Community Services
Rick Wing, Dean of Continuing Education, Business and Hospitality

COLLEGE DIRECTORS

Cindy Adam, Financial Services
Gus Grisdale, Physical Resources
Susan Hunter, Marketing and Communications
Carolyn Hepburn, Native Education and Training
Peggy Storey Inkster, Chief Information Officer
Linda Ryan, Community Employment Programs
Mary Ellen Tomie, Registrar
Matt Trainor, Student Services (started in July, 2008)
Rick Wark, Student Services (retired in July, 2008)
Rick Webb, Human Resources

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Ben Pascuzzi, Chair
Dr. Pat Avery
Cecilia Bruno
Joe Chilelli
Suzanne Farrell
Ron Gagnon
Christena Laitinen
Yarek Mlynarczyk
Allan Moffatt
Art Pluss
Kamal Ughadpaga
Bob Wilding
Randy Gaetano, Support Staff Representative
Elizabeth Kontschieder, Faculty Representative
Rick Wing, Administrative Representative
Stefan Shynkorenko, Student Representative
Dr. Ron Common
Max S. Liedke, Secretary/Treasurer
Anne Reynolds-Clément, Board Secretary

www.saultcollege.ca