



Sault College News Release

For immediate release

Child and Youth Worker Students Prepare for 11th Annual W.A.L.K.

(Sault Ste. Marie, ON April 1, 2011) Sault College's third-year students of the Child and Youth Worker (CYW) Program will be hosting the annual "We All Love Kids" W.A.L.K. on Saturday, April 9th. Proceeds from this year's walk will support Christy's Light Foundation "Self Esteem Team." The community is invited to participate in this event with registration beginning at 10:00am in the front lobby at Sault College.

There will also be many family-friendly activities at the event including inflatable rides, fishpond games, face painting, refreshments and more. This student-run fundraising event is a class project that has the graduating students involved in every aspect of the event, including where proceeds are donated. This year's class has chosen to support the development of Christy's Light Foundation "Self Esteem Team" that gathers students from every high school in Sault Ste. Marie to create a team to promote positive self esteem and acceptance within their schools.

"Our class is working hard in preparation for a great event to raise funds for Christy's Light Foundation," says Melissa Sawyer, third-year CYW student and Publicity Committee Chair. "In order to raise funds and awareness of this great cause, our class has been collecting pledges. We are hoping for a good turn out and lots of donations to support such a worthy cause."

The efforts of the CYW W.A.L.K. throughout the years has raised over \$50,000 for children and families in Sault Ste. Marie. "In the past, fund-raising efforts of the 3rd year CYW students have supported many community organizations such as Algoma Family Services, Algoma Public

Health, Infant Development program the Children's Aid Society and local schools," says Professor Donna Mansfield, Sault College CYW program. "The students gain valuable experience and knowledge of community development but are also able to directly support agencies that deliver much needed programs to children and their families in our community."

Free parking is available in the A-North Parking Lot located across the street from the College's main entrance. For more information, please contact Donna Mansfield at 705.759.2554 ext.2549.

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About Child and Youth Worker Program at Sault College

Graduates of the Child and Youth Worker program will be recognized as someone who can serve as a valuable resource to help children, youth and their families make positive changes in their lives. Through the learning experience at Sault College, students will develop a strong understanding of the social, emotional and behavioural challenges affecting young people and their families and learn how to use their skills and knowledge to motivate and support those in ways that are meaningful and significant. This is a program that can lead to work that is exciting, fulfilling, empowering and is purposeful. As a Child and Youth Worker graduate, students may enter into the lives of others to teach them social and life skills and support them in managing behaviour and forming positive relationships based on commitment, respect and effective communication. Sault College, located in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario is one of 24 community colleges in Ontario. Visit our website at www.saultcollege.ca for more information.

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