



Sault College News Release

For immediate release

1,030 Graduates Convocating from Sault College

(Sault Ste. Marie, ON May 17, 2011) Families and guests of Sault College's newest graduates will come together to celebrate this year's convocation at the Essar Centre on Friday, May 27 in two ceremonies. The morning ceremony, beginning at 10:00 am, will confer students in the schools of Business, Culinary and Hospitality, Aviation, Engineering Technology, Information Technology, Media and Design, Natural Environment and Outdoor Studies and Skilled Trades, as well as the Continuing Education programs.

The afternoon ceremony, beginning at 2:00 pm, will confer students in Community Services, Criminal Justice, General Arts and Science and Health Programs, and Continuing Education programs. In total, there are 1,030 candidates for graduation from Sault College this year, with approximately 479 of them expected to attend the official ceremonies.

Among the graduates are Laura Caputo – daughter of Sault College Professor Frank Caputo, and Laura Kistemaker, who are both graduates of the BScN program and have been accepted into the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (Sudbury Campus). KPI's have shown that approximately 32% of Sault College students go on to further their studies in either another College program or a university program.

Also in the audience will be the family of Ana German who will be flying in from Senora, Mexico to watch their daughter cross the stage to receive her diploma in Early Childhood Education.

As per tradition, platform party guests, faculty and students will be piped in by the 49th Field Artillery Pipe Band, followed by a welcome from President Dr. Ron Common and Board of Governors Chair, Cecilia Bruno. This year's keynote address will be given by Craig MacFarlane, an empowering inspirational speaker previously from the Algoma Region but now living in the United States. As a special feature to this year's ceremony, the "Korahsters" from Korah Collegiate, under the direction of Denine Williams, will be singing before each ceremony.

Following the presentation of liripipes and diplomas, there will be an honour drum song performed by the Waabshkizi Nimkii Kweok (White Thunder Women) Drum Group.

At the convocation ceremony, each graduate will be photographed onstage receiving his/her certificate, diploma, or degree. The Sault College alumni department will send this complimentary professional photograph along to each graduate after the ceremony.

All members of the public are welcome to share in the celebration of success. Entrance is free-of-charge to all.

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About Keynote Speaker Craig MacFarlane

Craig's story is one of inspiration and hope. Originally from Desbarats, Ontario, Craig now lives in the U.S., where he shares his message of inner vision with everyone from corporate executives to high school students. Considering his blindness "as a minor inconvenience" rather than a handicap, Craig went on to become a world-class athlete, winning over 100 gold medals in a variety of sports (the majority against sighted competition) including wrestling, downhill skiing, water skiing and track & field. Craig's career has brought him in touch with millions of people worldwide.

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