



A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR SAULT COLLEGE

## **Sault College News Release**

For immediate release

### **Essar Steel Algoma Inc. gives the Inspiring Growth Capital Campaign a major boost to push the campaign past the half-way point**

(Sault Ste. Marie, ON December 5, 2011) Staff, students and campaign representatives were on hand today in the foyer of Sault College's new academic building for an exciting announcement and \$1 million cheque presentation from Essar Steel Algoma Inc. This gift represents the largest ever private donation in the College's history. To recognize the significance of this gift, the new Academic Wing of the College will now bear the name Essar Hall.

"With this generous gift, Sault College's Inspiring Growth Campaign has now raised \$3.2 million, propelling our campaign past the 50% milestone towards the \$6 million goal," states Jim Boniferro, Campaign Chair. "There is a significant link between Sault College and local industry in terms of the types of programs offered. Thank you to Essar Steel Algoma Inc. for recognizing Sault College's contribution to our community with this transformational gift."

"On behalf of the students of Sault College, thank you to Essar Steel Algoma Inc. for this major investment in our future," states Tyler Epp, Sault College Student Union President.

Since opening its doors in 1965, Sault College has been an integral part of the community, contributing significantly to the educational, social and economic well-being of Sault Ste. Marie and Algoma Region residents and businesses. The support of partners, industry and communities is essential to the success of an educational institution that seeks to grow.

“In countless ways, the support of our community partner Essar Steel Algoma Inc. will guide us as an organization, enrich the relevancy of our curriculum and programming and will create financial opportunities for advancing education and the learning experience of our students,” states Dr. Ron Common, President, Sault College. “In recognition of this significant donation, Sault College has named its new academic building, Essar Hall.”

The donation comes days after Essar Steel Algoma Inc. announced the launch of a \$5 million Community Investment Fund providing corporate contributions to community charities, foundations and non-profit initiatives.

CEO Jim Hrusovsky states: “We support initiatives that serve to develop a sustained supply of skilled labour, grow future community leaders, promote academic excellence and facilitate lifelong learning for our employees and their families. Sault College embodies our strong belief in education and provides sustainable benefit to Essar Steel Algoma by graduating qualified candidates and delivering meaningful professional development programming.”

Sault College would like to express our gratitude to Essar Steel Algoma Inc. for their support in advancing post-secondary education in our community.

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#### **About the *Inspiring Growth* Capital Campaign**

The *Inspiring Growth* Campaign marks the most significant fundraising initiative in the College’s 45-year history. The campaign centers around four cornerstones aimed at inspiring the growth of students, programs, campus and community. Since opening its doors, Sault College has been an integral part of the community, contributing significantly to the educational, social and economic well-being of Sault Ste. Marie and Algoma Region residents and businesses through the educating of its workforce. Sault College is committed to helping students excel in post-secondary education but also in transforming their lives with a progressive, innovative learning experience. Businesses and individuals are being asked to support this vision and consider a gift to the campaign.

#### **About Sault College**

Sault College transforms the lives of students through providing innovative education and training, and granting Ontario College certificates, diplomas, advanced diplomas, graduate certificates, and degrees to its graduates. The College is the largest deliverer of apprenticeship training in all of Northern Ontario.

Maclean's magazine has ranked the College at the top of the province in graduate satisfaction, with 85% of graduates saying that they were highly satisfied with their education at the College. Educating over 4,500 students each year, Sault College has a significant economic impact on the community, with spin-offs in excess of \$100 million. Over \$2 million dollars in scholarships, bursaries and awards is distributed annually to students at the College. Located on the border to the United States and situated in the middle of three of the largest great lakes on the planet, Sault College is one of 24 publicly-funded colleges in the province of Ontario. Nearly 85% of graduates are employed within six months of graduation. Visit our website at [www.saultcollege.ca](http://www.saultcollege.ca) to learn more.

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