

## Sault College News Release

For immediate release

### Supporting Transformation and Student Success: Freedom 55 Financial and Sault College



(Sault Ste. Marie, ON February 9, 2012)

A pledge on behalf of Freedom 55 Financial™, the financial security planning division of London Life, is helping bring Sault College's *Inspiring Growth* Campaign \$50,000 closer to its goal.

The contribution, made through the national corporate citizenship program of Great-West Life, London Life and Canada Life, will support student scholarships and bursaries and the continued transformation of the campus into a premier post-secondary institution.

“An investment in education is an investment in personal and professional opportunities for students, and ultimately, in a more vibrant community,” said David Gearing, Regional Director, Freedom 55 Financial. “Living and working in Sault Ste. Marie, we share Sault College’s vision for providing greater access to a high-quality post-secondary education.”

Jim Boniferro, Chair of the Inspiring Growth Capital Campaign; Tyler Epp, Sault College Students’ Union President and Dr. Ron Common, President, Sault College, were presented with the gift by Gearing on behalf of Freedom 55 Financial.

The *Inspiring Growth* Campaign is the most significant fundraising initiative the College has undertaken in its 45-year history. With a \$6 million goal, the campaign will contribute to the continued transformation of the campus into a premier post-secondary institution and support student scholarships and bursaries.

“On behalf of Sault College, we are thankful for this gift,” states Boniferro. “This donation recognizes the importance of this College to our community and we are very appreciative of the generous support for the *Inspiring Growth* Campaign.”

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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 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.

**In photo:** (L to R) David Gearing, Jim Boniferro, Tyler Epp and Dr. Ron Common.

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