



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

Sault College announces new partnership with Extendicare

(Sault Ste. Marie, ON May 14, 2010) Community health care advocates were in attendance today at Sault College to learn of the College's newest partnership with Extendicare who will be building a 256-bed state-of-the-art long-term care home on six acres of College property.

"This construction answers a critical need in our community for superior health care for our local aging population and Sault College welcomes this important new development and new partnership with Extendicare and the possibilities it opens up to our students," says Dr. Ron Common, President, Sault College.

The long-term care home will be constructed at the east end of Northern Avenue. It will be set back from the road considerably, nestled among the trees on beautifully-landscaped grounds, and will tastefully blend in with our growing College campus and surrounding neighbourhood.

"As a native of Sault Ste. Marie, I am pleased that Extendicare is making this investment in a new state-of-the-art long-term care and rehabilitation center in this location and look forward to many great partnering opportunities with Sault College," said Tim Lukenda, President and CEO of Extendicare REIT. "We believe that the property chosen will provide a great environment for our residents to live surrounded by nature," Lukenda added.

The Ministry of Health has approved this project to address the need for long-term care beds in Sault Ste. Marie. "This investment by our government and Extendicare, in partnership with Sault College, to build a new 256-bed long-term care home is an important step forward as we continue to expand and improve health care infrastructure and services in Sault Ste. Marie," said Oraziatti. "We are committed to providing health care resources that ensure the dignity, respect and quality of life residents deserve."

Sault College students from areas including personal support worker, nursing, OTA/PTA, fitness and health promotion and culinary and salon services students will be able to gain first-hand on-the-job training at the home in the areas of nursing, dietary management, and facilities management.

“I look forward to working with Sault College administration, faculty and students from all health science disciplines” said Shelley McEachern, Administrator of Extendicare Tendercare. “Our new location is perfectly suited to building on our relationship with the college and centrally located for the convenience of residents, families and staff members” added Janice Hodgson Administrator, Extendicare Van Daele.

Construction is planned to begin next spring. Preliminary drawings were unveiled at today’s news conference.

-30-

About Sault College

Sault College reaches students through post secondary, continuing education, apprenticeship training and third party contract training. Sault College offers a full range of programs: Certificates, Diplomas, Advanced Diplomas, Post Graduate Certificates, Degrees, and Apprenticeship programs. Key Performance Indicator (KPI) surveys demonstrate that almost 90% of Sault College students are employed within six months of graduation and student satisfaction is among the highest in the province. 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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