



## **Sault College News Release**

For immediate release

### **ACCANO and Sault College to Co-Host Black History Month Celebration**

*February is black history month and to celebrate,  
ACCANO and Sault College have teamed up to invite you to celebrate*

(Sault Ste. Marie, ON February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013) Black History Month is an annual observance for remembrance of important people and events in the history of the African diaspora. The month of February is dedicated to recognizing the past and present contributions that African people make to the life of our world.

On February 24<sup>th</sup> in Sault College's Enji Maawnjiding, the African Caribbean, Canadian, Association of Northern Ontario (ACCANO) and Sault College will bring members of the community together to cook, perform and participate in a day of celebration.

"It is hoped that the momentum generated by hosting a Black History Month celebration continues and expands far into the future while creating and increasingly diverse experience for everyone within the Sault Ste. Marie Community," notes Graham Barber, Sault College's Cultural Activities Coordinator.

Sault College and ACCANO invite all to attend and to perform. This year's theme, "Cultures Speak", focuses on a celebration of culture and diversity, where different cultures need not be divided but instead join together to enrich and complement one another. The organizers invite anyone from the community to participate in this open celebration of diversity.

Dave Mornix, president of public relations for (ACCANO) African, Caribbean, Canadian, and Association of Northern Ontario recognized the need and desire for more cultural and diverse activities within the Sault Community. It was a collaborative effort between ACCANO and Sault College to organize the first Annual Black History Month celebration for ACCANO and Sault College, which was held on February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

“The celebration was an instant hit and ACCANO had many request from its members and the community for more of these types of activities,” notes Mornix. “Having the opportunity to bring different cultures together of the black community and to share their cultural music, poetry, and food can leave a lasting impact. The event also provides a sense of belonging for all who attend. This year’s celebration promises to hold the same kind of opportunity to participate and share in our rich culture.”

Community members will cook dishes from their home country to share with the public. There will be drumming performances, beautiful motivational presentations, vocalists and musicians. Anyone in attendance is also invited to speak, perform or share their story. While performances run from 5pm until 9pm, guests are welcome throughout the day. Parking is free anywhere on campus. For more information please contact Graham Barber at 705-759-2554 ext. 2705.

-30-

### **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. Sault College has ranked 82.8% in Student Satisfaction, the highest score for a Northern College and second highest score overall in the province. Educating over 4,500 students each year, Sault College has a significant economic impact on the community, with spin-offs in excess of \$150 million. Over \$2 million dollars in scholarships, bursaries and awards are 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. Visit our website at [www.saultcollege.ca](http://www.saultcollege.ca) to learn more.

Please contact:

Graham Barber, Cultural Activities Coordinator  
Sault College, 705.759.2554 ext. 2705

[www.saultcollege.ca](http://www.saultcollege.ca)