



## Sault College News Release

For immediate release

### Sault College Breaks Ground on Link

*MPP David Orazietti is on hand to give support of project*



(Sault Ste. Marie, ON June 17, 2013) Sault College broke ground today as college's staff, retirees, and community members joined in the celebration for the newest phase of the organization's redevelopment of the campus.

Also in attendance today was the Honourable David Orazietti, MPP, who officially announced that Sault College has been given \$800,000 from the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund (NOHFC) – Ministry of Northern Development and Mines for this project. The new building will connect the Student Health and Wellness Centre currently nearing

completion, to the College's current link. Earlier this year, Orazietti announced the MTCU funding of \$1 million towards the project. Today's additional announcement of funding brings the total provincial funding of the \$2.5 million health hub link to \$1.8 million.

"Today, as we celebrate the visible development of a new phase of campus transformation, we are grateful to the NOHFC for their continual investment in infrastructure improvements to support our campus redevelopment initiatives," states Dr. Ron Common, President, Sault

College. “The new Link will be surrounded by student services, commercial activity, meeting spaces and lounge areas making it a vibrant focal point for student activity and social life within the College. The vital investment is not only helping Sault College students get the best possible education and learning experience to succeed, but will greatly contribute with making our College more attractive to potential students regionally, locally and increasingly nationally.”

The Link will follow closely with the architectural look and feel established by the impressive new Academic Wing named Essar Hall and the Student Health and Wellness Centre building. Specifically, the Link will have similar surfaces, building height and structures to match the Health and Wellness project and create flow between the two buildings. To the observer, this building will seamlessly integrate and appear as one facility when completed.

“Having designed and studied a variety of similar projects, this space will capitalize on some of the latest educational learning trends and technologies,” notes Common.

Students of Sault College have named the new building, “The Common Link,” as announced in a recent board meeting at the College after President Common who has worked tirelessly to transform aging buildings to state-of-the-art centres for learning. His student-centred approach has been welcomed by all those guided by his leadership over the past several years since joining the organization.

“Our government continues to make substantial investments in infrastructure improvements at Sault College because we are committed to further developing innovative programs and attracting more students to the school and our community,” said Oraziatti. “Provincial support for the new Academic Building and the Health and Wellness Centre, as well as other initiatives have revitalized the Sault College campus and provided students with a new state-of-the-art facility to support higher learning.”

The most prominent feature within the new space will be the pedestrian “boulevard” which will be used for various functions related to student activity such as club rooms, study areas, retail outlets, computer and internet café, outdoor patios and lounges. The Link will be designed with identified functions that are appropriate for enhancing student educational and social experiences.

Substantial completion for the building is set for December of this year.

Seen in photo: Sault College Mascot Corby the Cougar; Danielle Greve, Sault College student; Dr. Ron Common, Sault College President; and the Honourable David Oraziotti, MPP at Link ground breaking ceremony earlier today

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### **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 \$100 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.

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