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university



SAULT STE. MARIE
INNOVATION
CENTRE

Sault College News Release

For immediate release

Think Spatially: Sault College, Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre and Algoma University to host Geographic Information Systems Day

(Sault Ste. Marie, ON November 13, 2013) Wednesday November 20, 2013 marks Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Day, a day set aside to celebrate GIS in our community. Sault College, along with the Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre and Algoma University, will be marking the occasion by holding an exhibition for both the public and students to learn more about GIS and its various applications. This event will showcase how local professionals are using GIS to enhance their work, as well as highlight career opportunities that are available in the field.

The event will take place in Sault College's Essar Hall from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 20. Local high school students from Geography, Information Technology, Civics and Careers, and Co-op classes have been invited to attend various planned activities at Sault College. Local GIS and Geography professionals and educators will be giving presentations to those in attendance. A hands-on GIS lab demonstration will be showcased and students will have an opportunity to speak with GIS and Geography professionals at the Open House Expo.

"Sault College is excited to be co-hosting this year's GIS Day and showcase our state-of-the-art GIS lab that uses the very latest hardware and software from top GIS and remote-sensing vendors," notes Heath Bishop, Coordinator of the GIS program at Sault College. "We are the first College in Ontario that has the leading-edge stereoscopic 3D GIS imaging that provides

students with top-notch training that is highly in-demand, and we are eager to show it to others.”

GIS Day is held as part of the National Geographic Society’s Geography Awareness Week, which has taken place every year since 1987. In 2012, more than 60 organizations across Canada, and thousands worldwide hosted GIS Day events.

"Algoma University is proud to co-host the GIS Day celebrations in Sault Ste. Marie with our partners from the Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre and Sault College," says Kevin Hemsworth, Director of Marketing and Communications from the University. "Our four-year Geography program has a significant GIS component, and we also offer a minor and a certificate program in Geomatics, so GIS Day is a perfect fit for us."

“The City of Sault Ste. Marie is home to one of the most advanced municipal GIS implementations in Canada,” adds Miranda Moffat, GIS Technician/Analyst for the Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre. “Many organizations leverage the power of GIS every day to help create a safer, healthier and more prosperous community,”

For more information on the local GIS Day exhibition taking place, please contact Miranda and Danika at gisday@ssmic.com

To learn more about the history of GIS Day and Geography Awareness Week, visit <http://www.gisday.com/index.html>

About Sault College

The vision of Sault College is to provide a transformative life experience through empowering those who study with us to think and learn in progressive, innovative ways, including those we have not yet imagined. Sault College grants 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 83.8% in Student Satisfaction, the highest score for a

Northern College and second highest score overall in the province. Educating over 3,900 students each year, Sault College has a significant economic impact on the community, with spin-offs in excess of \$158 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 to learn more.

About Algoma University

Algoma University offers a wide variety of liberal arts and sciences degree options including programs in Psychology, Computer Science, Business Administration, Fine Arts, Community Economic & Social Development, and Biology in Sault Ste. Marie, Brampton, Timmins and St. Thomas. As a partner with Shingwauk Kinooamaage Gamig, Algoma U is committed to respecting Anishinaabe knowledge and culture. Algoma University has launched its Essential Elements Campaign to expand its campus and offer more scholarships and awards to students. To learn more, visit www.algomau.ca.

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