



## **Sault College News Release**

For immediate release

### **Sault College Partners with Niagara College to Deliver New Enterprise Resource Planning System**

(Sault Ste. Marie, ON December 17, 2013) A new partnership between Sault College and Niagara College will help transform the College significantly. The Enterprise Resource Planning Alliance, or ERP Alliance, as it is being referred to, represents deployment of new technology systems software and processes for Sault College with Niagara College who has already implemented the system successfully. The ERP Alliance between Sault and Niagara College is the largest ERP system partnership of its kind in the Ontario College sector utilizing the PeopleSoft software package.

“By helping us to streamline processes, ensure accuracy, foster collaboration and refine data, the ERP Alliance will move Sault College forward as we embrace best practices in our business,” notes Jamie Fata, Chief Information Officer and Project Leader at Sault College. “At Sault College, the ERP system includes: Student Information System (SIS), Financial Information System (FIS) and Human Resources Information System (HRIS). As partners, this collaborative ERP will enable us to synergize business operations, drive continuous improvement, increase quality of services and allow us to focus on our key customer – the student.”

Sault College will be the lead on the project in cooperation with Niagara College, who will provide assistance to Sault College in its deployment of the PeopleSoft ERP. An integrated package of software products that are developed to help organizations share information, the ERP Alliance is anticipated to improve workflow through automation and easier access to

student, financial, and employee data needed to complete operational tasks and provide self-service applications. The project will create a replicable foundation for ERP post-secondary partnerships with a focus on demonstrative and measureable outcomes and productivity-oriented business plans.

"This project is a great example of collaboration, and the embracing of best practices and continuous improvement among partner institutions," said John Levay, Niagara College's Director of Information Technology Services, and Project Leader. "We look forward to working with our partners at Sault College towards our shared goal of building practices and processes that ultimately enhance the way we serve our students."

The Sault College and Niagara College partnership will focus on innovation, efficiency, and centres of excellence through shared services and an increased level of service to students. The alliance will also satisfy operational and strategic ERP needs while leveraging existing system expertise and drive down costs associated with independent implementation.

Funding for this project is provided by the Ontario government's Productivity and Innovation Fund in combination with the College Financial Health and Sustainability Grant. The ERP launch will begin in early January through a phased-in process. Projected completion of the project is scheduled for 2016.

-30-

### **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](http://www.saultcollege.ca) to learn more.

**About Niagara College**

Niagara College offers more than 100 diploma, bachelor degree and advanced level programs at campuses in Welland, Niagara-on-the-Lake, and Niagara Falls; as well as more than 600 credit, vocational and general interest Continuing Education courses. Areas of specialization include food and wine sciences, advanced technology, media, applied health and community safety, supported by unique learning enterprises in food, wine, beer, horticulture and esthetics. For more information visit [NiagaraCollege.ca](http://NiagaraCollege.ca).

Please contact:

Tessa Pino, Communications Officer

Sault College

705.759.2554 ext. 2830

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