



## **Sault College News Release**

For immediate release

### **Community generosity continues to flourish as Sault College honours its students at its annual Scholarship Bursaries and Awards night**

(Sault Ste. Marie, ON March 6, 2015) The strength of the financial aid program at post-secondary institutions is critical to ensuring all students continue to get access to training opportunities. In the Sault College Student Financial Assistance department, awards are given out annually to deserving students based on academic merit, personal attributes and unmet needs.

Sault College's annual Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards (SBA) night will be held at the Comfort Suites this Tuesday, March 10 at 6:30 p.m. where student award recipients will sit with their respective donors in celebration of academic achievement. During the 2014/2015 academic year, \$1.8 million is being distributed to approximately 1,900 students. Throughout the SBA evening alone, close to \$300,000 will be given to over 240 students.

"SBA is the highlight of the year as we celebrate the outstanding achievements of deserving students," states Terry Ableson, Financial Aid Administrator and Chair of the SBA program.

"Since students are the central focus of our College, we will do everything we can to help them succeed including providing our students with financial assistance to attend our College. We continue to be inspired by a community who provides needed funds for our students to receive the best post-secondary education possible."

As part of the evening's ceremony, Michael Hrab, a student in the Aviation Technology (Flight) program will be the top award winner of the evening who will be presented with the Governor General's Academic Medal Award. Since 1873, Governor Generals of Canada have sponsored this medal to encourage and recognize excellent academics at various levels of the educational system. It is awarded to the student graduating from the previous year's three-year program who has achieved the highest academic standing in the College in the final year of his/her program. Earlier this year, many first-year students were recognized at the President's Academic Excellence Scholarship evening for their high academic achievements.

Each year, the generosity of donors that support Sault College students continues to grow. This year, several new awards will further benefit students including the Healthy Minds on Campus Award; the Gerald & Kaye McGuire Scholarship; the Francis Pegahmagabow Memorial Scholarship; the Sault Ste. Marie Firefighters' Association Local 529 Scholarship; the Sault Youth Association Volunteer Scholarship; and the Aniruddh Sawant Commemorative Award.

Scholarships, bursaries and awards comprise three valuable resources available to students. Sault College would like to thank its individual and corporate donors for their commitment in giving our students the opportunity to pursue their educational goals and for believing in the strength of a Sault College education. This support and recognition is encouragement for students to succeed in meeting their career goals, striving for academic excellence and being dedicated to achieving their personal best.

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#### **About Sault College Financial Assistance**

More than 1,900 Sault College students receive financial support through scholarships, bursaries and awards during the academic year and just over \$2.2 million in scholarships, bursaries and awards will be distributed this year. The Sault College Student Financial Assistance Office administers the Ontario Student Assistance Program, Scholarships, Bursaries & Awards, and the Tuition Fee Bursary Program. Assistance is also offered to help those students who are experiencing difficulties in meeting their educational costs by offering a number of other financial assistance services including budget counselling for groups or individuals, high school OSAP workshops, classroom presentations, and seminars on debt repayment. Over 85% of Sault College students receive financial assistance including

Entrance Awards, In Course Awards, OSAP, Student Access Guarantee Bursaries, Student Financial Assistance Bursaries and Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards. Visit our website at [www.saultcollege.ca](http://www.saultcollege.ca) to learn more.

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