



**Sault College Media Release
For Immediate Release**

Celebrating Women: Sault College Employee Honoured with ATHENA Leadership Award

(Sault Ste. Marie, ON March 8, 2017) – International Women’s Day is a day to recognize and celebrate the many accomplishments of women. Today, Sault College is particularly proud to celebrate a tremendous leader within our organization: Linda Ryan, Director Employment Solutions. Today, Linda was honoured at the Sault Ste. Marie Chamber of Commerce Women in Business Breakfast as this year’s recipient of the *ATHENA Leadership Award*.

The *ATHENA Leadership Award* recognizes an individual for their professional excellence, for providing valuable service to their community and for actively assisting women in the attainment of their professional goals and leadership skills¹.

Linda Ryan was recognized for always being a strong motivator and example to women. She is a great believer in people’s potential, always encouraging new ideas, continuous improvement, personal and professional growth, career advancement and leadership. Her support and encouragement of others have always been at the forefront of her work. She is committed to the community of Sault Ste. Marie and has been an active voice for Northern Ontario at the provincial level.

“On behalf of Sault College, I would like to congratulate Linda on this amazing achievement,” says Dr. Ron Common, President Sault College. “Linda has been an incredible leader within our College for many years. Throughout her journey here, she has continuously strived for excellence in every aspect of her work. She leads by example and is a great mentor and a positive influence to many. She is truly deserving of this honour.”

Congratulations Linda!

¹ Source: Sault Ste. Marie Chamber of Commerce

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. Educating over 2,300 full-time and 4,000 part-time students each year, Sault College has a significant economic impact on the community, with spin-offs in excess of \$158 million. Over \$1.8 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.