



**Sault College Media Release  
For Immediate Release**

**Sault College Honours Graduates at its 2017 Spring Convocation**

(Sault Ste. Marie, ON June 1, 2017) – Over the next two days, friends, family and the Sault College community will join together to celebrate the outstanding accomplishments of Sault College’s newest graduates at its annual spring convocation ceremonies.

Each ceremony will honour graduates from various programs for their hard work and perseverance. “Convocation is a truly special highlight of the year,” says Dr. Ron Common, Sault College President. “These students are an integral part of our community and we are so proud to have helped them find their passions. Today we celebrate their successes and it is with great pride that we watch as their academic journey at Sault College comes full circle. On behalf of Sault College, I congratulate each graduate on this great achievement and wish them all the best as they begin a new chapter,” he adds.

The spring convocation will welcome more than 960 graduates to the Sault College alumni family and each ceremony will feature inspiring addresses from notable keynote speakers.

The ceremony on the morning of June 1 will celebrate graduates from various programs including: Business, Continuing Education, Information Technology, and Media and Design and will feature keynote speaker Kristina Lengyel, Vice President, Global Professional Services, Kronos, and graduate of Sault College’s Computer Engineering Technology program.

Graduates from Aviation, Engineering Technology, Natural Environment and Outdoor Studies, and Skilled Trades, will be honoured at the afternoon ceremony on June 1. Tracey Cooke, Executive Director, Invasive Species Centre will address the congregation as the keynote speaker.

The morning ceremony on Friday, June 2 will see graduates from Sault College’s Health Programs and include a keynote address from Krysta Cameron, BScN MN PHC-NP (RNEC), who

pursued her dream of becoming a nurse at Sault College. Friday afternoon will honour graduates from Community Services, Culinary and Hospitality, General Arts and Sciences and Justice Studies, and feature keynote speaker Darren Madahbee, RSSW, Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation Health Centre, a Sault College Social Service Worker, Native Specialization graduate.

In keeping with Sault College tradition, the platform party guests, faculty and student procession will be led by the Lone Piper. Following the presentation of liripipes and diplomas, the White Thunder Women from the local Ojibwe community will perform an honour drum song, and Obadjiwon singers and the Baawaating Community Jingle Dress Dancers will lead the recessional. Students, along with their families and friends, will celebrate this special occasion with a reception immediately following each of the convocation ceremonies.

In addition to these four convocation ceremonies, various other Sault College graduates in programs located outside of the Sault Ste. Marie campus have been celebrated throughout the past few months, including: Aircraft Structural Repair Technician Program in London, Ontario on April 28, and Peace and Conflict Studies Program in Toronto, Ontario on May 25.

June will also see the convocation of graduates from the Welding Techniques Program in Fort Frances, Ontario, Social Service Worker – Native Specialization Program in Thunder Bay, Ontario, Anishinaabemowin Immersion Program in Fort Frances, Ontario and the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Program in North Bay, Ontario.

Sault College congratulates all of this year's graduates and wishes them all the best as they embark on a new life journey.

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#### **About Keynote Speakers**

##### **Kristina Lengyel, Vice President, Global Professional Services, Kronos**

As Vice-President of Global Professional Services at Kronos a global provider of Workforce Management software, Kristina Lengyel is responsible for driving the strategy to deliver exceptional services to the growing Kronos customer base, while driving high customer satisfaction and loyalty world-wide. She has been a key driver of Kronos' accelerated time-to-value deployment supporting traditional on-premise workforce management customers through cloud transformation while managing a staff of 800+ professionals globally.

Prior to joining Kronos, Lengyel was the senior vice president of global technical services at Open Solutions and managed more than 300 on-shore and off-shore technical and operations professionals focused on product quality in support of the organization's audacious growth plan. She held several key executive roles at Concerto (now Aspect) Software, the world's largest company solely focused on the

contact center industry. Prior to Concerto, Lengyel served as a senior vice president of technical operations and chief technology officer at INSCI Corp.

Kristina is a graduate of Sault College's Computer Engineering Technology Program

### **Tracey Cooke, Executive Director, Invasive Species Centre**

Through her work with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Ducks Unlimited Canada and consulting in the private and not-for-profit sectors, Tracey Cooke brings expertise in partnership development and stakeholder relations. Tracey is skilled at forging and nurturing partnerships through collaboration, and is an enthusiastic communicator, facilitator and fundraiser. Her strong track record of managing complex programs with diverse partners makes Tracey uniquely qualified to lead the Invasive Species Centre as it grows existing relationships and seeks out new partners to work together on priority projects.

Tracey holds a Bachelor of Environmental Studies in Environment and Resources Studies from the University of Waterloo. A native of Thessalon, Ontario, she lives on the North Channel of Lake Huron with her husband and three children.

### **Krysta Cameron BScN MN PHC-NP (RNEC)**

Krysta Cameron (Waldorf) was born and raised in Sault Ste Marie. She found her love for healthcare as a teen volunteering to provide first aid at local events. A Korah Collegiate graduate, she pursued her dream of becoming a nurse here at Sault College. During her time at Sault College, Krysta was active in student life and student government. In addition, she was very active in the Sault College Chapter of the Canadian Nursing Students' Association (CNSA). She served as Official Delegate and in her fourth year of nursing school, led a team to host the Ontario Regional CNSA Conference as Regional Conference Director. She also sat as Vice Chair on the Advisory Council to the President and represented her peers as Class President.

Since graduating in 2009 with her BScN and becoming an RN, she has worked in a variety of specialities including vascular surgery, surgical float team and emergency care. She has practiced in a variety of both large and small centres in Ottawa, Timmins and Guelph.

Most recently, Krysta completed her Masters of Nursing specializing in Advanced Nursing Practice. She currently works as a Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner at the Guelph General Hospital Emergency Department and at the Waterloo Regional Nurse Practitioner Led Clinic. Here Krysta has the privilege of working with patients from all walks of life as a provider and partner to better their health.

### **Darren Madahbee, RSSW, Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation Health Centre**

Darren Madahbee, RSSW, is a Mental Health Community Worker for the Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation Health Centre. He is educated in social service work and psychology that incorporates Anishinabek culture. An expert in suicide intervention and prevention, Darren is licensed with LivingWorks and is a SafeTALK Trainer/Instructor. Darren enjoys and frequently gives back to the community through coaching and mentoring children, and fundraising. Additionally, he runs and

operates a Brazilian jiu-jitsu club where he incorporates Anishinabe Culture medicine wheel drills; the students mimic the dodems in their martial arts warm-up sessions.

As a Recreation Coordinator Darren manages the operations of the Youth Centre through planning and implementation of community recreation and sports events geared to all ages groups; provides access to centre recreational equipment; and assists the sports team organizer in hosting local, regional, national and international tournaments.

Darren was recently elected to the Executive of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers as its first ever Anishnaabe member.

Darren is a graduate of the Sault College Social Service Worker, Native Specialization program.

### **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.