



Sault College News Release

For immediate release

Sault College GIS Student Wins Prestigious Scholarship



(Sault Ste. Marie, ON April 8, 2013) Samantha Luke, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) student at Sault College, has received a scholarship worth \$40,000 from Esri Canada, which distributes the world's leading GIS platform from Esri.

Esri Canada provides GIS solutions that empower organizations to make timely, informed and mission-critical decisions by leveraging the power of geography. Through its GIS Scholarships program, the company awards more than \$2 million in scholarships every year to help outstanding GIS students in Canadian colleges and universities advance their studies and create workable solutions to real-world problems. The scholarship consists of a one-time payment to the student, a comprehensive package of the latest Esri software, GIS textbooks, training, access to Esri's Virtual Campus, and registration to an Esri Canada User Conference.

Upon receiving the scholarship, Luke, originally from Warsaw in Ontario, noted: "This scholarship means a great deal to me. Not only will this increase my employability on a short-term basis, but it will also help me achieve my long-term career goals. GIS allows me to visually explore and interpret data to observe relationships and trends that are likely to be missed using more traditional methods like static maps. I have really enjoyed my time at Sault College. This is

such a great place to learn and the atmosphere in the lab is one that definitely promotes and encourages education.”

GIS applications in the work force is growing at such an exponential rate that this scholarship will allow Luke to stay on the leading edge of an incredibly vast and important area of study. Congratulations Samantha.

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About the Geographic Information Systems Program

GIS is the computerized analysis of spatially-oriented data and the resulting production of usable products such as maps, tables and layouts. This post-graduate certificate program prepares students for a career in geomatics, the integration of geographic information systems (GIS) and remote sensing. The program’s highly interactive, hands-on training approach in a new 3D state-of-the-art computer lab uses the latest software from top GIS and remote sensing vendors. Specific courses provide the student, with practical experience in the use of ArcGIS, ENVI, PCI Geomatica, MS Access, MS Project and other standard Microsoft products, as well as Visual Basic, SQL, and ArcObjects programming languages. For more information, visit our website at www.saultcollege.ca

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