



Sault College News Release

For immediate release

Students Get Ready to “Crush it” at Annual Bridge Building Competition



(Sault Ste. Marie, ON April 30, 2013) Young students are preparing to “get crushed” this weekend as Sault College hosts its 24th annual Bridge Building contest on Saturday May 4th in the Multimedia Centre. The grade 5 and 6

division – the youngest of the four divisions, will get underway first beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Multimedia Centre at Sault College.

“Bridge Building is a great way to introduce young minds to the world of civil engineering,” states Ray Escasa, Bridge Building co-organizer and Sault College recruiter. “Local schools have embraced this event, incorporating the contest into their bridges and structures curriculum and we at Sault College are honoured to host the event and inspire students at an early age.”

Hundreds of elementary school students from the community were given the opportunity to participate in Bridge Building informational clinics throughout the past few months. Sault College’s Civil Engineering Technician program professors and student recruiters provided valuable tips and demonstrations on how to construct strong and sturdy bridges.

Civil and Architectural engineers from the community will be on hand to judge the construction of each bridge that is entered for aesthetics and structural ability. The bridges are then scored during a process of being crushed to test their strength. A load is applied to the top centre of each bridge and weight is applied to test the structures' limits until the bridge is ultimately crushed.

Cash prizes will be awarded to contest winners. First-place winners in each category will receive \$100. \$75 will be awarded to each second-place winner and \$50 will be given to third-place winners. In the grade 5/6 and 7/8 categories, additional smaller cash prizes will be awarded. Corby the College cougar will help celebrate the achievements of the winners by visiting their schools to give winners their prizes.

This year's sponsors of the popular event include the Ontario Association of Architects (OAA), Professional Engineers Ontario, Algoma Chapter (PEO), Rotary Club North and OACETT – Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists, Sault Bridge Authority, School College Work Initiative (SCWI) and the International Bridge Administration.

Students may drop off their completed bridges at the College and register for the contest on Thursday May 2 from 3:30 to 8:00pm in Essar Hall. The Bridge Building event is open to the general public, and free parking is available anywhere on campus. For details, please contact Sault College Student Recruitment at 759-2554, ext. 2856 or visit

www.saultcollege.ca/bridgebuilding

About Sault College Civil Engineering Technician Program

The Civil Engineering Technician program is designed to prepare graduates with the basic skills and knowledge to enter the design and heavy construction fields. As a graduate, students can work as part of an engineering team or as part of a multi-disciplinary team. Graduates work in a variety of careers including computer-aided drafting and design (CAD), surveying, construction layout and inspection, field

and laboratory testing, supervision and scheduling of projects, estimating, sales and marketing, as well as design and construction of municipal installations, highways, pipelines, and hydro-electric developments. Students may have the opportunity to be involved in applied research projects. Sault College, located in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario is one of 24 community colleges in Ontario. Visit our website at www.saultcollege.ca for more information.

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