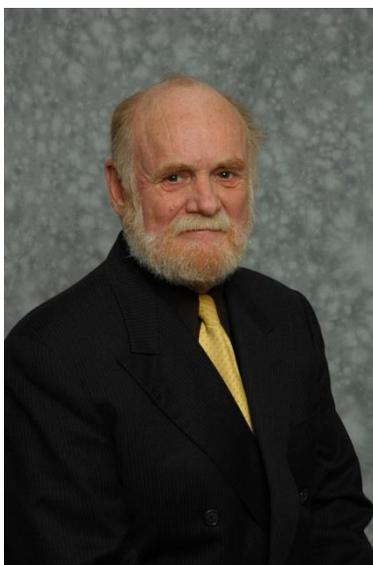




Sault College News Release

For immediate release

Sault College President Dr. Ronald Common Receives the Province's Highest Honour



(Sault Ste. Marie, ON January 24, 2014) It is with great pride and excitement that Sault College announces that President Dr. Ronald Common has been awarded the Order of Ontario, the province's most prestigious and highest official honour.

The award recognizes extraordinary Ontarians who have demonstrated a high level of individual excellence and achievement in any field benefiting the people of Ontario or anywhere in the world. Once a year, the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario honours those chosen for appointments to the Order

at an investiture ceremony which took place yesterday at Queens' Park.

Dr. Common was recognized for his impressive 46-year career in education, with roles ranging from teacher, principal, and professor at five universities in three provinces. Common was dean at two post-secondary institutions, with his career culminating as president of Sault College. His achievements include educational initiatives related to Aboriginal groups, managing organizational change within educational organizations and international development.

President Common has worked extensively with Aboriginal communities throughout Canada, successfully establishing band-operated school systems, including building schools and negotiating educational self-government agreements. He was recently inducted into the Nipissing Human Rights Hall of Fame for his work with First Nations and marginalized people around the world. He has worked on international development projects in Malawi, Cameroon, Kenya, and South America.

“Dr. Common is truly a deserving candidate that has demonstrated a high level of individual excellence and achievement benefiting not only the people of Ontario but worldwide,” notes Carla Fabbro, Chair, Sault College Board of Governors. “During his time with our College, President Common has helped our College provide the highest-quality post-secondary education and training services in the province. His time, dedication, and vision are very much appreciated. He is truly deserving of this honour.”

Prior to joining Sault College, Dr. Common was Dean of Education at Nipissing University for seven years. He has been a university administrator for 12 years at Nipissing, Brandon and Memorial Universities, and has held positions at Queen’s University, Brock University, Memorial University, Brandon University and Nipissing University as a Professor of Education Administration.

A multi-degree graduate, Dr. Common received Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Education and Master of Education degrees from the University of Manitoba. Dr. Common earned his Ph.D. in Educational Administration from the University of Ottawa.

Sault College congratulates Dr. Common for his leadership and for exemplifying the highest level of individual excellence and achievement in the field of education. His respect for the profession has fuelled his relentless passion for the pursuit of bettering the field that both informs and inspires minds of the future, and we are grateful for his contributions to the students, communities, and organizations with whom he has worked, including our College.

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. Sault College has ranked 83.8% in Student Satisfaction, the highest score for a Northern College and second highest score overall in the province. Educating over 3,900 students each year, Sault College has a significant economic impact on the community, with spin-offs in excess of \$158 million. Over \$2 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. Visit our website at www.saultcollege.ca to learn more.

Please contact:

Tessa Pino, Communications Officer

Sault College

705.759.2554 ext. 2830

www.saultcollege.ca