

REALITY CHECK



POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Post-secondary education is crucial for both individual and community health and well-being, and is one of society's great equalizers for disadvantaged groups. Consistently post-secondary graduates earn substantially above those individuals with a secondary education or less, and today's leaders benefit from Ontario's high ranking as one of the best educational systems in the world.

DID YOU KNOW?

ONE FULL-TIME DOMESTIC STUDENT BRINGS \$18,000 TO THE LOCAL ECONOMY

ONE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT BRINGS \$25,000 TO THE LOCAL ECONOMY

WHAT ARE THE TRENDS?

Communities that have strong post-secondary institutions demonstrate greater financial stability. One full time domestic student brings \$18,000 to the local economy and one international student brings \$25,000. Sault Ste. Marie benefits from approximately 3566 FTE post-secondary students which results in \$65 million dollars to the local economy. Three hundred international students contribute approximately \$7.5 million.

Post-secondary institutions also provide greater cultural vitality with student and faculty engagement in the community, and often serve as economic generators through research and innovation. A broad range of research is being done including work on invasive species, food security, water, technology and indigenous development. As examples, NORDIK Institute generates over \$500,000 annually and over the past 5 years has trained over 400 researchers. Sault College recently announced the construction of their 18.2 million dollar Institute for the Environment, Education and Entrepreneurship which will provide the ideal venue for teaching, on-campus private sector collaboration and innovation and entrepreneurship in the disciplines of environmental science and information technology.

Sault Ste. Marie is one of four cities in Northern Ontario to have both a college and a university, Sault College and Algoma University. This is further advantaged by the presence of Shingwauk Kinooamaage Gamig, which operates in close affiliation with Algoma, and offers a BA in Anishinaabemowin (Indigenous language of the region) and is developing a program in Anishinaabe Studies. Sault College's Engi Maawnjiding Centre is the focal point of Sault College's Native Student population and delivers Indigenous programming both at the college (Social Service Worker - Native Specialization) and throughout the province (Anishinaabemowin Immersion Certificate). This commitment to Indigenous Education is crucial when our local population is comprised of approximately 20% Metis/First Nation/Inuit/Indigenous individuals.

A provincial trend to improve pathways for students transferring from college to university, has been advanced by Sault College and Algoma University through a number of preferred articulation agreements (for example, between the College's Social Services Worker Diploma and Algoma's Bachelor of Social Work and Sault College's Aviation Technology Diploma and Algoma's Bachelor of Business). Indigenous students in particular, are taking advantage of the benefits of these articulation agreements. Approximately 60% of students attending the institutions come from the local catchment area.

Northern Ontario's declining population has put pressure on post-secondary institutions to attract students from outside the region as well as outside the province. In 2015-16, Algoma had 1081 FT and 334 part-time students, a decline of approximately 11% from the previous year, while Sault College's enrolment remained relatively steady at 2331 full time students and 128 part time post-secondary students in 2015.

Provincially, international students comprise 10% of the population, but Algoma more than doubled this in the 2012-14 period when it was at 22%, although it has declined somewhat since that time. Sault College has recently grown its international student base from 7 students in 2012, to 106 students in 2016 with expected growth to continue. Both educational institutions have approximately 20% Indigenous students. Algoma U has 2 additional campus in Timmins (degrees in Social Work and Community Development and Brampton (Business Administration), and is exploring opportunities for greater on-line course development. Sault College's Aircraft Structural Diploma is offered in London and is currently working with the northern College's to increase articulation among the 5 college institutions.

Lifelong learning, mid-career shifts and a swiftly transitioning economy mean that more students are coming back to school. Our local post-secondary institutions have between 55 and 60% 'non-traditional' students meaning they come from the workplace, other post-secondary streams or as mature students. Both post-secondary institutions offer programs for retraining and professional development. Access to provincial retraining opportunities is decreasing as recovery from the economic crisis of 2009 continues. As an example there were 131 graduates from the 2009 cohort of MAESD Second Career program compared to 23 grads from the 2104 cohort. Sault College is the largest deliverer of MAESD sponsored apprenticeship training seats in the north.

Algoma's Community Economic and Social Development (CESD) program has been offering off-campus delivery of its program and courses, primarily in First Nation communities since 2004, and for the past seven years, has been supporting the delivery of a Certificate in First Nation Welfare Administration in collaboration with the Ontario Native Welfare Administrators Association. In addition, the College also supports delivery of numerous certificate and contract programs throughout the north including Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder 1 year post-diploma certificate in partnership with Anishinabek Education Institute, 1 year welding certificate and a 3 semester Esthetician Diploma both delivered in partnership with Seven Generations Education Institute.

SAULT STE. MARIE



IS ONE OF THE FOUR CITIES IN NORTHERN ONTARIO TO HAVE BOTH A COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY

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POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

SAULT COLLEGE

Sault College's offers over 70 one to four-year post-secondary programs with Aviation and Natural Environment programs attracting the highest number of new students to the area. The Bachelor of Science - Nursing, Practical Nursing, Aviation Technology and Occupational Therapy Assistant are normally oversubscribed with more applicants than available seats.

**OVER 70
ONE-TO FOUR-YEAR
PROGRAMS**



ALGOMA UNIVERSITY

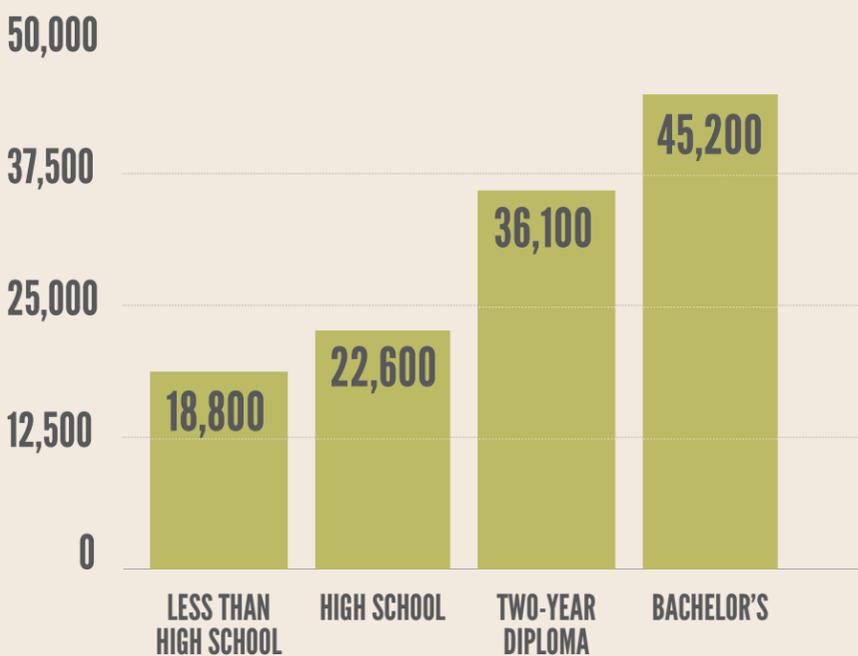
Algoma U's enrolment includes 24% in its Business Administration program and approximately 7% for each of the Psychology, Social Work and Computer Science programs. Algoma U now offers over 30 degree programs.

**OVER 30
DEGREE
PROGRAMS**



EXPECTED EARNING IN ONTARIO AT MID-POINT OF INDIVIDUAL'S WORKING CAREER BY EDUCATION LEVEL

EDUCATION LEVEL	INCOME	DIFFERENCE
Less than high school	\$18,800	N/A
High school	\$22,600	\$3,800
Two-year Diploma	\$36,100	\$13,500
Bachelor's Degree	\$45,200	\$9,100



WHAT'S NEW?

- Sault College's campus revitalization has included a new state of the art teaching learning facility (ESSAR Hall) as well as a new Health and Wellness Centre which includes student government, a new gym, fitness space, a walking/running track and a restaurant.
- Recently announced build of the Sault College Institute for the Environment, Education and Entrepreneurship (IE3)
- Sault College Robotics Lab which will enable collaborative applied research projects in advanced manufacturing and produce local talent to help local industry be more competitive in advancing their innovation capabilities
- Algoma U has 2 new programs which have been reviewed and are awaiting final approval from the MAESD: Anishinaabe Studies and Environmental Science (AU)
- Since 2010 Sault College introduced 10 new full time post-secondary programs
- Business Case Competition attracts teams from across Northern Ontario, and puts Algoma U 'on the map' with high-profile judges drawn from CBC's Dragon's Den and other business people
- Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig has recently obtained 5.1 million to build a new discovery centre on the site it shares with Algoma U. The centre will house the Shingwauk Residential School and Centre and Archives andl provide a home Anishinaabemowin Studies.
- Sault College has been rated among the top two colleges in the province for the past 5 years for student satisfaction; number 1 in quality of facilities for the province for three years in a row

¹ All information has been obtained from Sault College and Algoma University annual data