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For Immediate Release

More Ontarians Accessing Post-Secondary Education and Training through Online Learning

A 28.4 % Increase in Student Registrations in Spring/Summer 2014

(THUNDER BAY, ON) - Contact North | Contact Nord, Ontario's Distance Education & Training Network, generated a total of 10,070 registrations in online learning courses offered by Ontario's 24 public colleges, 22 public universities and 250 literacy and basic skills and training providers in the most recent spring/summer academic semester. This represents a 28.4% increase over the same period in 2013.

"Ontarians from across the province continue to use Contact North | Contact Nord's Ontario-wide network of 112 local online learning centres in record numbers to access online learning programs and courses by Ontario's colleges, universities, literacy and basic skills and training providers during the past spring/summer academic semester" noted Paul Taillefer, Chair, Board of Directors, Contact North | Contact Nord. "Students pursued their first college diploma or university degree, finished their high school diploma, improved their literacy and basic skills, and completed professional development and academic upgrading through this flexible and convenient mode of learning."

"Ontario's 24 public colleges, 22 public universities and 250 literacy and basic skills and training providers collectively offer 1,000 online programs and 18,000 online courses" stated Maxim Jean-Louis, President – Chief Executive Officer, Contact North | Contact Nord. "Contact North | Contact Nord works with all of these educational providers to support thousands of Ontarians to prepare for the jobs of today and the emerging opportunities of the future through online learning."

Four million Ontarians in 600 small, rural, remote, Aboriginal and Francophone communities across the province have access to a range of local and online services at no cost, in English and French, from Contact North | Contact Nord to take online and

distance programs and courses from Ontario's colleges, universities, literacy and basic skills and training providers.

Ontarians can visit studyonline.ca or call the Student Information Hotline at 1-877-999-9149 for additional information on available online programs and courses and registration assistance.

Contact North | Contact Nord, Ontario's Distance Education & Training Network, has been in operation since in 1986 and is funded by the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.

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