

January 14, 2016

For Immediate Release

**Contact North | Contact Nord
Generates a Record Number of 67,135 Student Registrations
as it Starts its 4th Decade of Operation**

***Ontarians Use Online Learning to Complete Their Degrees, Diplomas, and
Certificates and Improve Their Skills***

(THUNDER BAY) - Contact North | Contact Nord, Ontario's Distance Education & Training Network, generated a 63.7% increase in the number of student registrations in online programs and courses for Ontario's 24 public colleges, 22 public universities, and 250 literacy and basic skills and training providers during the 2014-2015 academic year (September 1, 2014, to August 31, 2015) as compared to the 2013-2014 academic year.

Total student registrations increased from 41,013 in 2013-2014 to an all-time high of 67,135 registrations in 2014-2015, an increase of 26,122 registrations. Contact North | Contact Nord reported growth in student registrations for courses offered by universities, colleges, school boards, literacy and basic skills and other training providers. This record result represents a 133% increase in the number of student registrations over the past five year.

The 4 million Ontarians in the 600 small, remote, rural, Aboriginal and Francophone communities served by Contact North | Contact Nord use online learning to complete their degrees, diplomas and certificates and improve their skills. Online learning allows them to remain in their community and participate in their courses when it is convenient for them as they continue to meet their work and family responsibilities.

"In 2014-2015, our 112 local online learning centres and our Student Information Hotline supported record numbers of Ontarians as they as they registered in online programs and courses from Ontario's 24 public colleges, 22 public universities and 250 literacy and basic skills providers to meet their individual needs to get their first degree or diploma, upgrade their skills for new job opportunities or prepare to start a post-secondary credential" stated Paul Taillefer, Chair, Board of Directors, Contact North |

Contact Nord. “It is gratifying to see so many Ontarians using our services over the past year.”

“With over 180,000 visitors and growing, our studyonline.ca portal for students and prospective students is an important resource, since its launch in 2008, for Ontarians looking for information on available online programs and courses, student support services and connecting with their local Contact North | Contact Nord online learning centre” noted Maxim Jean-Louis, President – Chief Executive Officer, Contact North | Contact Nord. “Studyonline.ca plays a key role in supporting students and prospective students and contributing to our record results in 2014-2015.”

Contact North | Contact Nord partners with Ontario’s 24 public colleges, 22 public universities, and 250 public literacy and basic skills and training providers to provide local access to education and training opportunities. Funded by the Government of Ontario continuously since 1986, Contact North | Contact Nord supports over 4 million Ontario residents living in 600 small, remote, rural, Aboriginal and Francophone communities to access post-secondary education and training without having to leave their community.

Visit studyonline.ca or call the Student Information Hotline at 1-877-999-9149 for more information on available online programs and courses and how to connect with one of the 112 Contact North | Contact Nord online learning centre located in communities across the province.

- 30 -

For more information:

Heather Campbell
Communications Coordinator
1-855-345-5035
heather@contactnorth.ca

[About Contact North | Contact Nord](#)