





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 19, 2022

SCIENCE NORTH TO HOST SECOND NORTHERN MEDTALKS EVENT

SUDBURY, ON – Science North is preparing to host the second annual Northern MedTalks event on April 21, at 7 pm. Following a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the free speaker event returns with ten presentations by Northern Ontario health care providers who will share engaging stories about human health. Each ten-minute talk is co-produced by health care providers and Master's students of the Science Communication program led by Laurentian University and Science North.

Tickets for the in-person presentations in the Vale Cavern are sold out, however, Science North is streaming the event live on the big screen in the IMAX® Theatre. The livestream will also be available on Eastlink Community TV beginning at 7 pm and accessible online through Science North's website. Tickets for the livestream event at Science North can be reserved by visiting sciencenorth.ca/medtalks or on-site at Science North.

"We are thrilled to once again be able to host Northern MedTalks and provide a platform for these amazing health care providers to share their inspiring stories," said Julie Moskalyk, Science Director of Science North. "The collaboration between the Science Communication program and health care professionals is exceptional and benefits everyone involved. People attending the event in-person, online, or watching on television can expect fast-paced and engaging presentations," added Moskalyk.

"Our students have spent the past 8 months learning how to talk about science in ways that are meaningful, accessible, and relevant to audiences," said Michelle Reid, Instructor with the Science Communication program. "This partnership enables them to support medical experts in sharing impactful stories that will enrich our understanding of personal and community health," explained Reid.

This year's lineup of health care providers includes family physicians, nurse practitioners, paramedics, neurosurgeons and more. Guests attending the in-person event can also participate in a social hour in the science centre following the presentations. Northern MedTalks 2022 is hosted by Science North and is sponsored by Laurentian University Master of Science Communication program, Health Sciences North, and Eastlink Community TV.

About Science North

Science North is Northern Ontario's most popular tourist attraction and an educational resource for children and adults across the province. Science North maintains the second – and

eighth-largest science centres in Canada. Science North's attractions include a science centre, IMAX® theatre, digital Planetarium, butterfly gallery, special exhibits hall, and Dynamic Earth: Home of the Big Nickel. Science North, in partnership with Laurentian University, offers North America's first and only comprehensive Science Communication program, a joint master's and Graduate Diploma program. As part of its mandate, Science North provides science experiences throughout Northern Ontario including outreach to schools and festivals, summer science camps and more, and has a permanent base in Thunder Bay providing outreach to the Northwest. Science North is an agency of the Government of Ontario. For information, visit sciencenorth.ca.

About the Science Communication Graduate Program

This program builds students' theoretical knowledge and practical experiences needed for a meaningful career in science communication. Students apply the theory and best practices learned in class to real world projects, and hone their skills by visualizing real data, developing communication plans, and documenting research as it evolves at Laurentian University, Science North, and with our community research partners. The program is delivered in partnership with Science North, which provides students with experiential learning opportunities. Some courses are offered on the Laurentian campus, at Vale Living With Lakes while others are delivered at Science North. For more information, visit www.sciencecommunication.ca.

About Laurentian University

Laurentian University serves over 8,000 students on its campus in Sudbury, Ontario, and is one of two bilingual universities in the province of Ontario. Committed to its bilingual, tri-cultural mandate, Laurentian University offers an outstanding university experience in English and French with a comprehensive approach to Indigenous education.

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