

## SCIENCE NORTH HOLDS CELEBRATION AND ANNOUNCES MEAGAN MCGRATH AS ITS NEWEST HONORARY LIFE MEMBER AWARD RECIPIENT

(SUDBURY, ON) – On July 7, Science North celebrated and recognized its newest Honorary Life Member, Meagan McGrath, a familiar face to Sudbury, Science North, and undoubtedly worthy of the Honorary Life Member title. McGrath is an aerospace engineer, an explorer, a proud member of the Canadian Armed Forces, a scientist, and a trailblazer for all women in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). She joins 51 other individuals with the title of Science North’s Honorary Life Member.

The Honorary Life Member Award was instituted in 1984 by the Board of Trustees of Science North to recognize individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to science and/or Science North.

McGrath is host to a magnitude of outstanding achievements and incredible stories. In May 2007, she reached one of her most incredible milestones – Meaghan summited Mount Everest, the world’s tallest mountain at 8849 m, located in the Himalayas. She was proudly supported by Science North to do so, achieving her goal of climbing the ‘Seven Summits’. In November 2007, she was honoured for her unwavering bravery when she saved the life of a climber near the summit of Mount Everest as she descended from her own summit achievement.

McGrath has a long history with Science North, extending back to when she was a child as a Summer Science Camp participant. This past Friday, July 8, Meaghan presented to Science North campers, Science North’s Student Science Advisory Council, and the general public about the importance of adventuring, exploring, encouraging people of all ages to follow their passion, while motivating them to reach new heights. After her enthusiastic presentation, the audience was treated to the award-winning Everest IMAX film.

Meagan is known for her perseverance, hard work, humility, creativity, giving back to her community, and countless significant contributions to Northern Ontario. She credits finding her passion and being in a STEM career to Science North’s Summer Science Camps programs.

“Life can be exciting! Admittedly, it can sometimes be hard to make our dreams happen. With a goal and lots of perseverance, it turns out your dream expedition is possible! Get creative and be prepared to work hard.” Meagan McGrath

“One of the greatest joys when working with Meagan on her adventures was developing with her the ways we would involve our visitors, especially youth, in the science and spirit of adventure. I watched many young girls look up to Meagan wondering what dreams they could also accomplish knowing women like Meagan pave the way for them.” Amy Henson, Senior Scientist

To celebrate, and honour, Meagan as an Honorary Life Member a new fund has been established. The Meagan McGrath Girls in STEM Fund recognizes Science North Honorary Life Member Meagan McGrath for her commitment and dedication to Science North, her resilient global exploration and expeditions and her promotion and support of women and girls in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). The goal of the Fund is to provide support for programs, projects, or initiatives that seek to improve access and representation for girls in STEM throughout Northern Ontario. To support, please visit: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/science-north/campaign/the-meagan-mcgrath-girls-in-stem-fund/>

“On behalf of everyone at Science North and Dynamic Earth, we’re incredibly proud to announce Meaghan McGrath as our second Honorary Life Member this year. What a compelling, exciting, and insightful celebration. It’s inspiring to see Meagan go from a summer camp participant to embark on countless journeys and explorations, summiting Mount Everest, giving back to Northern Ontario, and becoming a role model for women in STEM. She is truly incredible. We’re proud to support her, and she’s worthy of the title of Honorary Life Member.” Jennifer Booth, Interim CEO, Science North.

For more information on Meagan McGrath visit: <https://meaganmcgrathadventurer.com>

Watch video honouring Meagan’s work in STEM: <https://youtu.be/mFqcYIjkYa4>

### **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](http://sciencenorth.ca).

For more information on Science North Honorary Life Members: <https://www.sciencenorth.ca/hlm>

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