







FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 11, 2023

# Highly anticipated medical speaker event returns to Science North for third year

SUDBURY, ON – Science North is preparing to host the third annual Northern MedTalks event on April 27, at 7 pm. Once again, ten Northern Ontario health care leaders will take the stage and share engaging stories about human health in this free event. Each ten-minute talk is coproduced by healthcare presenters and master's students of the Science Communication program led by Laurentian University and Science North. The event is supported by Eastlink.

Tickets for the in-person presentations in the Vale Cavern are sold out, but a live stream will be available on Eastlink Community TV beginning at 7 pm and accessible online through Science North's website. This event will be presented in English with ASL interpretation. Accessible seating for visitors using mobility aids will be available in the Vale Cavern. Tickets can be reserved by visiting <a href="mailto:sciencenorth.ca/medtalks">sciencenorth.ca/medtalks</a> or on-site at Science North.

When you reserve your free ticket, you will see the option of supporting Science North's <u>Science for All</u> fund. The <u>Science for All</u> fund provides financial support to increase the number of individuals, groups, schools, and communities who can access Science North facilities and experiences, creating equitable access for all. This innovative fund ensures programs related to STEM are accessible to anyone living in Sudbury and across Northern Ontario. Anyone can donate to the fund on Science North's <u>website</u>.

"Once again, we have a phenomenal line-up of speakers for Northern MedTalks and Science North is proud to host this impactful event for our community," said Julie Moskalyk, Science Director of Science North. "The collaboration between the Laurentian University's Science Communication program and Northern Ontario health care professionals is wonderful to see. Whether you are attending in person or watching the livestream, I'm sure you will be inspired by the talented healthcare leaders we are so lucky to have in Northern Ontario," added Moskalyk.

"Our graduate students have appreciated this unique opportunity to work alongside local professionals to shape memorable stories that will inform and entertain," said Michelle Reid, Sessional Instructor and Adjunct Professor in the Science Communication Program, School of Natural Sciences. They've applied all of their training in science communication best practices

to co-developing accessible and engaging presentations, and they are looking forward to welcoming the community to this event," added Reid.

Guests attending the in-person event can also participate in a social hour in the Science North lobby after the presentations to discuss the evening's stories with speakers and fellow guests and will have the opportunity to see the current special exhibition, *Dinosaur Discoveries*. Northern MedTalks 2023 is hosted by Science North and Laurentian University's Master of Science Communication program and is sponsored by 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 Laurentian University 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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