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MEDIA RELEASE

First Peoples' Centre at Canadore College joins Actua as 37th network member

Ottawa, July 15, 2019/ Today, Actua announced the First Peoples' Centre at Canadore College as its newest network member. Based in North Bay, Ontario, the First Peoples' Centre is Actua's 37th national network member, and 14th located in Ontario.

"We are pleased to welcome the First Peoples' Centre at Canadore College to the Actua network," said Jennifer Flanagan, CEO of Actua. "Canadore is a leader in engaging Indigenous youth in STEM in North Bay and the surrounding region. Actua's support will help ensure they reach more youth with deeper impact programming."

For over 30 years, Canadore College has been delivering meaningful Indigenous education. Nearly 30 per cent of Canadore's total student population is of Ojibway, Oji-Cree, Cree Algonquin, Mohawk, Inuit or Métis cultural heritage from Ontario, Québec and nationwide; one of the highest representations in the provincial college system.

Canadore supports Indigenous learners through its mainstream programs as well as more culturally-driven programming through the School of Indigenous Studies, which currently oversees 21 programs, as well as through the First Peoples' Centre, which offers student success services including recruitment, retention and cultural or personal support.

At the core of Canadore's Indigenous science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM) youth programming, known as Kikandaaswiwin Mookiisin, is a two-week summer land camp for high school youth. The camp, which runs annually, celebrates Indigenous STEAM knowledge and land-based practices.

"Through our valued partnership with Actua, we are excited to launch our second annual Indigenous STEAM summer land camp, in partnership with Dokis First Nation," said Patricia Chabbert, manager of Indigenous and business relations at Canadore College. "Indigenous learners will spend 15 days on the land and gain a paired high school and college credit, which is unique to Canadore. The program is grounded in STEAM-related Indigenous Knowledges and celebrates the many young leaders in our community."

The First Peoples' Centre will also deliver an Indigenous STEAM instructor training program for Indigenous Canadore College students and for-credit land-based programming for local Indigenous youth at local high schools. With Actua's support, the First Peoples' Centre will be

focused on increasing access to STEAM programming for youth, specifically Indigenous youth, across the region and is working towards providing more delivery hours in more locations each year.

About Actua: Actua is Canada's leading science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) youth outreach network representing 37 university and college based members. Each year 250,000 young Canadians in over 500 communities nationwide are inspired through hands-on educational workshops, camps and community outreach initiatives. Actua focuses on the engagement of underrepresented youth through specialized programs for Indigenous youth, girls and young women, at-risk youth and youth living in Northern and remote communities. Actua's major funders include: Government of Canada, Google Canada, Suncor Energy Foundation, GE Canada, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Finning, Toyota Canada Foundation and Lockheed Martin. For more information about Actua, visit actua.ca.

About Canadore College: Canadore College trains people through applied learning, leadership and innovation. It provides access to over 75 full-time quality programs and has outstanding faculty and provides success services to students from nearly 400 Canadian communities and 15 international countries. The College and its students add nearly \$244 million to Nipissing Parry Sound Service Area economy. Approximately 1,000 students graduate from Canadore each year, and they join 46,000 alumni working across the globe. Canadore receives less than 50 per cent of its traditional funding from the provincial Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities and relies on its own innovation and entrepreneurial endeavors and generous donors for the balance.

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