



## News Release

### **Sault College aviation student competes for Webster's Top Amateur Pilot Award**

(Sault Ste. Marie, ON Monday, August 16, 2010) Claire Buxton, a Sault College third year aviation student is one of nine finalists in the 2010 Webster Memorial Trophy competition to become Canada's top amateur pilot. Representing Northern Ontario Region, Claire is travelling to Calgary, Alberta today, to compete in the national finals from August 18 to 21.

The competition is a series of flight exercises and written exams held during the week. As well, the finalists will be hosted at several social activities and will be participating in a photo shoot for one of the sponsors - Hamilton Watch Company. This very prestigious competition will be attended by Canadian aviation representatives, giving these finalists the opportunity to network with their future employers.

"We will start on Tuesday with a familiarization flight," says Buxton, who explains, "Calgary is about 4000 feet above sea level and I am used to flying in the Sault and Southern Ontario where we are about 1000 ft above sea level. The whole week will be a fantastic experience."

Preparing for this competition has been a summer long effort for Claire, who returned to her hometown of Brampton, Ontario for summer employment. "The competition was held in Brampton last year," explains Buxton. "I saw what they were looking for in their competitors and knew I wanted to apply. I submitted my flight test marks in May and was very excited to hear that I was selected to represent the region of Northern Ontario flight schools."

"We are especially pleased that Claire, as a female pilot, will be representing Sault College in this traditionally male-dominated profession. We know she will represent the region well in this prestigious competition," says Dr. Ron Common, president, Sault College and pilot.

The winner of the Webster competition will be announced at a banquet to be held on Saturday, August 21.

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#### **About the Competition**

##### History

The John C. Webster Memorial Trophy Competition was established in 1932 by the late Dr. J. C. Webster of Shediac, New Brunswick, who wished to perpetuate the memory of his son, John.

John Webster lost his life in an aircraft accident at St. Hubert, Quebec, while practicing to represent Canada in an aerobatic flying competition The Trans-Canada Air Pageant. In July, 1931, a month before

his death, John had represented Canada in his Curtiss-Reid Rambler in the King's Cup Air Race in England.

#### *The Competition Today*

The Webster Memorial Trophy Competition is an annual event committed to declaring the "Top Amateur Pilot in Canada". It was interrupted once by World War II and again in 1954 due to escalating administrative costs. The Canadian Sport Aeroplane Association (CSAA), whose aims and objectives are to promote sport aviation in Canada, reactivated the Competition in 1980 under the sponsorship of Air Canada. Amateur pilots aspiring to a career in aviation can be proud to affirm that they have competed in one of Canada's most prestigious aviation events.

For more information see: <http://webstertrophy.ca>

#### **About Sault College**

Sault College reaches students through post secondary, continuing education, apprenticeship training and third party contract training. Sault College offers a full range of programs: Certificates, Diplomas, Advanced Diplomas, Post Graduate Certificates, Degrees, and Apprenticeship programs. Key Performance Indicator (KPI) surveys demonstrate that almost 90% of Sault College students are employed within six months of graduation and student satisfaction is among the highest in the province. Sault College, located in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario is one of 24 community colleges in Ontario.

For more information see: [www.saultcollege.ca](http://www.saultcollege.ca)

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