



Innovation Centre adds three new board members

Lisa Richter, Dr. Richard Myers and Sang-Hyun Cho join SSMIC Board of Directors

The Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre's Board of Directors has recently added some new board members who will be helping to provide leadership, expertise and oversight to the organization. The new additions to the board are Lisa Richter, Dr. Richard Myers and Sang-Hyun Cho.

Lisa Richter is Northern Credit Union's director of human resources. She holds a B.Sc. (Agr.) from the University of Guelph in environmental biology and a diploma in human resources management from Conestoga College. She also holds a CHRP designation from the Human Resources Professionals Association of Ontario. Lisa returned to her hometown of Sault Ste. Marie in 2006 to join Northern Credit Union.



Dr. Richard Myers was recently confirmed as Algoma University's ninth President. Prior to joining Algoma U, Dr. Myers was the vice president academic of St. Thomas University in Fredericton, New Brunswick. Dr. Myers holds undergraduate, masters and doctorate degrees from the University of Toronto. He is also the co-author, along with Patrick Malcolmson, of *The Canadian Regime*, an analysis of parliamentary government in Canada that is now in its fourth edition.



Sang-Hyun Cho is currently a manager of product development in the quality assurance and technical services division of Essar Steel Algoma. In this role, he is primarily responsible for leading his group in identifying and advising on promising steel products, processes and laboratory technologies.

Sang-Hyun holds a Ph.D. in metallurgical engineering from Inha University, South Korea. He has also worked as a post-doctorate research associate at McGill University and as a researcher at Corporate Strategic Research of ExxonMobil Research and Engineering Company, amongst other positions.

The Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre is pleased to welcome Lisa, Richard and Sang-Hyun to its board of directors. SSMIC's success relies heavily on the management, technical expertise, commitment and vision provided by its board members. SSMIC's current team of board members are well positioned to guide the organization into an exciting new era.

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Agile workshop featuring Gerry Kirk, Nov. 29

Is your organization agile enough to thrive in today's competitive business climate? If you're not sure, make plans to attend the Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre's November workshop on Agile, featuring Agile experts Gerry Kirk and Selena Delesie.



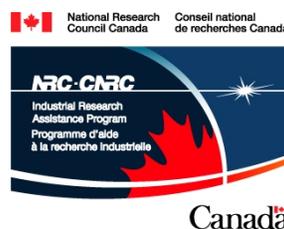
Above: Gerry Kirk

Agile is a project management methodology that stresses flexibility, interactivity and collaboration. Organizations that use Agile principles can benefit by having improved ability to respond to change and faster turn-around on deliverables.

Agile began as software development

process but its principles have since found wider application in the business world as a project management method.

More details on this upcoming workshop will be posted soon on www.ssmic.com. The Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre's workshop series is presented with support from the National Research Council of Canada's Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC-IRAP).



ARTIE 2010 - photo retrospective

ARTIE the robot's annual science and technology expo was a hit once again in 2010! More than 800 students registered for the third-annual ARTIE (Advanced Research and Technology Innovation Expo) held on October 14 and 15 at Algoma University's George Leach Centre.

This year ARTIE became a true regional event, drawing classes from Central Algoma Secondary School in Desbarats and Michipicoten High School in Wawa, as well as hundreds of students from Sault Ste. Marie.

While at ARTIE, students were able to visit educational exhibits hosted by the Great Lakes Forestry Centre's insect

production team, Sault Ste. Marie Regional Conservation Authority, Clean North, Knights of Alloy competitive robotics team, the Invasive Species Research Institute, Algoma Public Health, Sault College's natural environment and outdoor studies program, and the Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre.

On the elementary school day of October 14, younger students also took part in a gypsy moth caterpillar craft session while older students attended a presentation on video games. On the high school day of October 15, many students who took part in ARTIE also attended the ProtoLaunch kick-off featuring Michael Schmalz (see story on page four).

ARTIE and his (or is it her?) team of organizers would like to thank all of the exhibitors and volunteers for donating their time. They would also like to recognize the sponsoring organizations that helped make ARTIE 2010 possible. These are Algoma University, the Invasive Species Research Institute, CTV and Brookfield Power.

Thanks to everyone for all your help making ARTIE 2010 a success! We hope to see you all again in 2011!



- 1. A young lady strikes a pose with her gypsy moth caterpillar craft.
- 2. SSMIC's Ross MacLeod takes a break between presentations to hang out with ARTIE.
- 3. A lynx and an otter stare each other down at the Sault College exhibit.
- 4. Staff from the Great Lakes Forestry Centre introduce students to some six-legged insect friends.

For more photos from ARTIE 2010, please see page three.

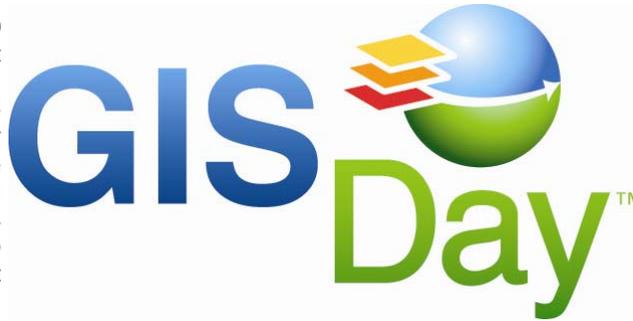


Public invited to GIS Day, Wednesday November 17, 2010

Wednesday November 17, 2010 is GIS Day and staff from the Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre, Algoma University and Sault College will be marking the occasion by holding an exhibition for both the public and students. The event will showcase how local professionals are using GIS in their work and also highlight career opportunities that are available in the field.

The public exhibition will take place in the hallway outside the Great West Life Amphitheatre at Algoma University from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Confirmed exhibitors include the Ontario Forestry Research Institute, CFS Great Lakes Forestry Centre, Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority, Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre, Sault College and Algoma University, with additional displays from the City of Sault Ste. Marie, Geoconnections/NRCan, GeoBase, GeoGratis and the National Atlas of Canada.

In addition to the public exhibition, many local high school geography classes will also be attending events at Algoma University as part of GIS Day. Planned activities for students include: a hands-on outdoor demonstration of how Global Positioning Systems (GPS)



geography-related careers,” says Hoffman. “We feel that it is important to provide a venue for students and visitors to meet and talk with potential future employers and to learn about the opportunities that the field has to offer.”

GIS Day is held as part of the National Geographic Society’s Geography Awareness Week, which has taken place every year since 1987. In 2009, local GIS Day events were held in approximately 80 participating countries.

For more information on the local GIS Day exhibition taking place this November 17, please contact Kristen Hoffman at khoffman@ssmic.com.

To learn more about the history of GIS Day and Geography Awareness Week, please visit:

<http://www.gisday.com/index.html>

devices work; an indoor GIS lab and the opportunity to talk to GIS and geography professionals. High school students will also be able to enter several contests to win prizes provided by ESRI, the world’s largest vendor of GIS software.

Kristen Hoffman is a Health GIS Analyst with the Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre’s Community Geomatics Centre and one of the lead organizers of the exhibition.

“We hope that the exhibition will increase awareness and stimulate interest in both GIS and



Above: Kristen Hoffman



ARTIE photo retrospective continued



1. The Knights of Alloy robot prepares to “kick” a soccer ball. 2. A split-second later and the ball is in flight! 3. Lorelei Premo of the Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority takes some time out to pose with ARTIE. 4. A gaggle of students eagerly dig into platefuls of dirt at Clean North’s earthworm composting demonstration. 5. John Clement (green hat at left) of Sault College talks about wild critters with a class of students during the October 14 elementary school day.

SSMIC to sponsor tree at Festival of Trees, November 18

The 11th annual Festival of Trees is fast-approaching and SSMIC will once again be purchasing a tree. One of the most popular trees at the festival, the SSMIC IT & Science tree is sponsored by SSMIC and local science and IT supporters.

The Festival of Trees is an annual fundraiser held in support of the Lung Association. This year the ballroom at the Comfort Suites will be awash in festively decorated trees and holiday wreaths as well as over fifty items donated by local businesses and a variety of professional sports organizations. The festival will also feature entertainment, silent auctions, raffles and children's activities.

To help prepare for the Festival of Trees on November 18, the Innovation



Above: SSMIC's science and IT tree from 2009.

Centre is seeking technology-related donations from its friends and partners within the community. Donors will be recognized by having their name and logo placed on signage at the event and will also be highlighted in the December *Eye on Innovation* newsletter.

Past donations have included items such as iPods, DVDs, digital picture frames, speakers, gift cards, printers and a variety of corporate merchandise. It is asked that all prospective donors submit their donation by **Thursday, November 11, 2010** so that adequate preparations for the event can be made.

For questions or to make a donation, please contact Jonathan Coulman at 942-7927 ext. 3122, or by email at jcoulman@ssmic.com.

ProtoLaunch is back! Workshop #2 takes place November 20-21

The second season of ProtoLaunch officially got underway on Friday October 15, 2010. Well over two hundred high school students crowded into the George Leach Centre at Algoma University to listen to a keynote address by Michael Schmalz, President of Digital Extremes for the ProtoLaunch 2010-2011 kick-off.

Michael talked to the students about the game development process and how game concepts often get changed during the course of a project. He used several examples of concept art from Digital Extremes' *Dark Sector* title to illustrate how a game and its characters can evolve over time. Michael also fielded a number of questions from students, including how much a typical game title would cost to develop and how long it takes for a game to get from concept to market.

Hot on the heels of the kick-off was the very first ProtoLaunch workshop of the season, which was held on Saturday October 16 at Algoma University. Michael Schmalz pulled double-duty by also being the lead facilitator for the workshop, which focused on coming up with a game concept and how to successfully pitch it to a would-be publisher.

The next ProtoLaunch workshop will be held on November 20 and 21, 2010 with David Sears, who is a creative director with Ubisoft Montreal.

While with Zipper Interactive, David



Above: Students crowd into the Great West Life Amphitheatre for the ProtoLaunch kick-off on October 15.

David has also designed and directed racing games, platform games and action adventures on a variety of consoles for developers including Virgin Games, Looking Glass Studios, Sony Computer Entertainment of America, and Pseudo Interactive.

Stay up-to-date on all the latest ProtoLaunch news by visiting www.facebook.com/ProtoLaunch. For more information on the program, please contact Dwayne Hammond via email at

dwayne.hammond@algomau.ca.

was the creative director for the critically acclaimed and best selling series of SOCOM: US NAVY SEALs games for Playstation 2 and PSP. His first work, an adaptation of Harlan Ellison's "I Have No Mouth, And I Must Scream" was an award winning PC adventure game.



Left: David Sears, Ubisoft

Elementa inks agreement with St. Lucia

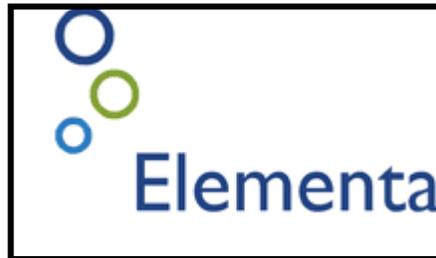
An inventive process for converting municipal waste into energy that was first demonstrated in Sault Ste. Marie will soon be utilized on the Caribbean island of St. Lucia.

In October, Island Green Energy (IGE) and their technology partner Elementa Group Incorporated signed a memorandum of understanding with the Government of St. Lucia to build a non-incineration waste-to-energy facility that will process the island's municipal solid waste.

When completed, the facility will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by over 70 000 tonnes annually and produce power for 6 000 homes.

Elementa has been operating its technology since 2007 at a demonstration

facility in Sault Ste. Marie. The company will be building a full-scale commercial



plant in the Sault with construction slated to begin this fall.

St. Lucian Minister Guy Joseph visited Sault Ste. Marie to review Elementa's pilot plant first-hand. While here, he also commented that he hopes that St. Lucia will be able to expand partnerships with

the City of Sault Ste. Marie.

Elementa's patented steam reformation technology converts solid waste into a clean, synthetic gas which can be used for power generation. Because the conversion uses a non-incineration process in an oxygen-free environment, there are no greenhouse gases produced. The process converts 98% of the waste volume, leaving 2% behind as an inert aggregate.

Scientific third-party reviews of Elementa's pilot plant have confirmed that the plant has significantly outperformed all national and international air emission standards.

With files from Elementa and the Sault Ste. Marie Economic Development Corporation.

Event in Hearst showcases CFS/ULERN woody biomass plantation

Science
Spotlight

On September 28 and 29, 2010, Ross MacLeod, David DeYoe and Guy Thiffault of the Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre traveled to Hearst for a knowledge transfer event about bio-energy feedstocks. The event was co-sponsored by the Canadian Forest Service (CFS) and the Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre and included both a seminar portion and field tours and demonstrations.

The seminar portion began with an introduction and some general remarks about biomass by David DeYoe. Darren Allen of the Canadian Forest Service then discussed carbon sequestration and biomass plantation specifics, regarding the ULERN/CFS biomass plantations that are present in the Hearst area.

Francis Allard of Agro Énergie then spoke about commercial willow plantations, covering the size and scope of operations, mechanics of operation, economics, management practices and marketing. Frederic Lavoie of Anderson Group presented on a "bio-baler," a simple and cost-effective system for harvesting biomass crops.

Gary Huizing of Northland Power in Kirkland Lake discussed a 106 megawatt biomass generation facility that uses 200 000 tonnes of wood waste per year. To help ensure a fuel supply for the facility, the company is pursuing energy crops. So far they have planted 50 acres of Willow in

the Cochrane area with plans to expand to 150 acres eventually.

Later, the audience moved outdoors to tour the CFS/ULERN woody biomass plantation. The plantation features short-rotation coppice willow that varies in growth age from 1-4 years. Included in the tour was a stop-over at a harvested portion of the plantation and the group was also able to observe Frederic Lavoie's bio-baler in action. The field tour portion of the event was continued on the morning of September 29, demonstrating the performance of the bio-baler in a non-plantation setting, where it was observed that the results were similar, but the speed of harvest was generally reduced.

Check back with *Eye on Innovation* next month for another Science Spotlight!



Top Right: The bio-baler takes down a stand.

Above: The resulting biomass "bale."

UPCOMING EVENTS:

NOVEMBER

Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre

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- **November 11, 2010**
Innovation Breakfast

Contact mpratt@ssmic.com for details

- **November 17, 2010**
GIS Day

Contact khoffman@ssmic.com for details.

- **November 18, 2010**
Festival of Trees

Contact jcoulman@ssmic.com

- **November 20-21, 2010**
ProtoLaunch Workshop #2

Contact Dwayne.hammond@algonau.ca

- **November 26, 2010**
TAG luncheon

Contact mward@ssmic.com

- **November 29, 2010**

Agile Workshop featuring Gerry Kirk
contact awagner@ssmic.com

Visit www.ssmic.com to view an updated calendar of events.

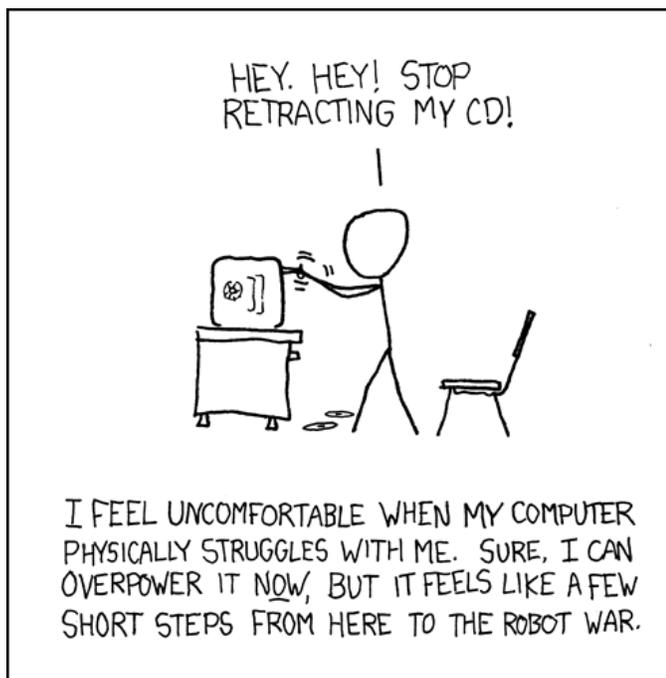
For more information
about any of the events
or to RSVP contact

Jonathan Coulman at: 942-7927
X3122 or jcoulman@ssmic.com.

Verbatim

“Programming today is a race between software engineers striving to build bigger and better idiot-proof programs, and the universe trying to produce bigger and better idiots. So far the universe is winning.”

- Rich Cook



Comic courtesy of: <http://xkcd.com>

New Vice President joins Algoma U

Algoma University has a new member of its executive team, Mr. Sean Dwyer, Vice President of Finance and Administration. Dwyer began work on October 4th, 2010.

Dwyer will be responsible for providing both strategic and hands-on leadership to the university by implementing the institutional plan in budgeting and

accounting, funding, external grants, physical plant, ancillary operations, information technology, and human resources. In addition, he will play a key role in planning all programs and services, identifying resources, overseeing non-credit revenue-generating initiatives, and ensuring a diversity of revenue sources for the university.

A native of Sydney, Nova Scotia, Dwyer comes to Algoma University from Calgary where he spent the majority of his career in the Energy Industry. Prior to that Dwyer worked in capital management within the banking sector after spending several years as a high school mathematics teacher.

Are you an entrepreneur or part of a SME that would like to be profiled in a future edition of Eye On Innovation?

Contact: mward@ssmic.com

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