

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MARCH 28, 2019**

## **NOCLD ANNOUNCES NEW HONORARY CHAIR**

**(SUDBURY, ON)** — The Northern Ontario Centre for Learning Differences (NOCLD) is pleased to announce Fred Slade, a respected Chartered Accountant and community leader from Greater Sudbury, as Honorary Chair. Fred Slade will help bring awareness to the organization, as well as the families it serves throughout northeastern Ontario.



**From left to right:** Fred Slade (Honorary Chair, NOCLD), Mary-Liz Warwick (Executive Director, NOCLD) and Dr. Kevin McCormick (Chair of the NOCLD Board of Directors and President and Vice-Chancellor of Huntington University)

“I am honoured to help showcase the programs and services the Northern Ontario Centre for Learning Differences provides to families in our region,” said Fred Slade. “After meeting with representatives, I was impressed with their innovative approach and passionate commitment to expanding the successful programs and services offered in Sudbury to the communities of North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins. I look forward to helping the organization create awareness for the resources and supports available to families of students who face challenges with learning.”

Over the past three years, NOCLD has helped support over 1,300 parents in navigating the educational system and over 1,800 children and youth with support in understanding their particular learning disability. The NOCLD was established in January 2016 when the Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury (LDAS) received a three-year, \$600,000 Grow grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to extend the reach of their existing programs and services to

other communities across the north. Provincial grant funding is set to come to an end on March 31, 2019, however the organization is committed to securing sustainable funding so that families in North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins will continue to be supported.

“We are proud to welcome Fred Slade as Honorary Chair, and look forward to continued discussions with our political leaders and community stakeholders across Northeastern Ontario, as we promote and seek investments to sustain the valuable programs and services currently being offered in North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins,” said Mary-Liz Warwick, NOCLD Executive Director.

“Every student has the right to an education and the right to learn in a way that best suits their learning style. NOCLD will continue to advocate, at all levels of government and community, for those rights,” said Dr. Kevin McCormick, Chair of the NOCLD Board of Directors and President and Vice-Chancellor of Huntington University in Greater Sudbury.

#### About Fred Slade

Fred Slade was born and raised in Falconbridge and has resided in Sudbury throughout his professional career as a well-known chartered accountant. Fred owns and operates his own business, *Fred Slade and Associates*, where his focus is supporting small businesses in the community. Over the years, Fred has been very active in the community. He has served on the boards of many local organizations, including Presidencies of both the local CA Association and the Rotary Club of Sudbury. Currently, he serves on the Local Advisory Board to the Salvation Army, the Finance Committee for Health Sciences North and the NOHFC Board of Directors. Fred Slade is also the former Conservative Party of Canada candidate for the Sudbury riding.

#### About the NOCLD

The Northern Ontario Centre for Learning Differences (NOCLD), which includes a head office based out of Huntington University in Greater Sudbury, and satellite offices in North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins, is an organization that provides resources and supports across the north for families of students identified with an exceptionality, such as a learning disability. Front-line services in North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins have been funded since 2016, thanks to the Ontario Trillium Foundation Grow grant (\$600,000 over three years). These locations offer innovative programs and support to learners and their families. The NOCLD team of Resource Facilitators support and advocate for parents of students with learning differences, and help to facilitate positive working relationships between home and school.

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