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## **News Release**

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### **NMCC to host series of Presque Isle Historical Society presentations on key aspects of County history**

*Aroostook County* - Over the coming months, the Presque Isle Historical Society will host a series of presentations on key happenings that have shaped the history of the region. The sessions, which are open to the public at no charge, will be held on the Northern Maine Community College campus in the Edmunds Conference Center starting in March.

Featured topics include the history of the Presque Isle hospital on March 7, the history of the Northern Maine Fair on June 6, the life and times of A.C.T. on September 5, and lastly the topic of ice harvesting on the Presque Isle stream on December 5. All four talks in the series will begin at 5:30 p.m. and run for an hour.

The first presentation in the series will spotlight the Presque Isle hospital. This presentation will celebrate 100 years of The Aroostook Medical Center. Learn how the public hospital came to be here in Presque Isle and follow its growth from 1912 to the present. The presentation will feature medical artifacts from the past. It will be held Wednesday, March 7, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

NMCC is partnering once again with the Presque Isle Historical Society by serving as host for these events. The partnership to help showcase our area's local history began with a series of presentations hosted by Smith that focused on local history surrounding the development of the college.

“Engaging people in local history leads to a greater sense of community pride and is integral to the mission of the Presque Isle Historical Society. We are proud to continue our partnership with Northern Maine Community College to offer these presentations as NMCC has had a rich heritage of serving our community for over fifty years,” said Smith.

Smith conducted a series of presentations that began last April on the history of the campus that served as the unofficial kick-off to the college's anniversary celebration at a dinner event on campus that also served as the annual meeting for the NMCC Alumni and Friends Organization. The series also included presentations on the Aroostook War, The Double Eagle II, and The Presque Isle Army Base.

Smith has earned the Silver and Gold level awards from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation for her volunteerism with the Presque Isle Historical Society. This volunteer time is given in addition to working full-time and serving as an adjunct instructor at the University of Maine at Presque Isle, Northern Maine Community College, and for the Graduate Program at Husson University.

Smith was named Presque Isle's Citizen of the Year for 2009 by the Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce for "her enthusiastic leadership of the Sesquicentennial celebrations and her untiring participation in Presque Isle Historical Society."

For more information on the upcoming historical presentations, contact the NMCC college relations office at (207) 768-2809 or e-mail [info@nmcc.edu](mailto:info@nmcc.edu).

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