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News Release

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NMCC to offer Certificate in Non-Profit Management Program

Aroostook County - Area residents interested in and involved with non-profit organizations now have the opportunity to take courses and even earn a certificate in non-profit management through the continuing education division at Northern Maine Community College.

The certificate program will introduce a series of eight courses covering a wide variety of topics of interest to non-profit organizations. Workshops will run for four hours every three weeks on Friday mornings, beginning on February 1, with different sessions held through the final course offering on June 28.

“Our organization recognizes the need for such training for our own board and volunteers as well as that of the other 485 Aroostook County non-profit organizations if we are to be successful in achieving our missions in this economy,” said Kim Smith of the Presque Isle Historical Society, who played a key role in the creation of this non-profit management program. “It is imperative that non-profit executives as well as key staff and volunteers have the skills and resources necessary to meet the challenges facing them.”

The non-profit management program was first offered in 2011 with the help of a grant from the Maine Community Foundation that supported the initial development of the curriculum. Among the goals of the initial program offering was to demonstrate the need for and potential success of such a program moving forward in the region, which certainly was the case with 99 students and 19 organizations benefitting from that pilot program. More and more institutions of higher learning across the country are recognizing the need for training specific to the non-profit arena.

The upcoming workshops will cover the following topics: Grant-Writing 101 (February 1), Coaching Staff for Improved Performance (February 22), Fundraising for the Non-Profit (March 15), Strategic Planning for Non-Profits (April 5), Leadership Development for Non-Profits (April 26), Effective Use of Volunteers (May 17), Financial Management for Non-Profits (June 7) and Marketing for Non-Profits (June 28).

Individuals may enroll in as many or as few workshops in the program as desired. Those who complete at least six of the eight sessions will be issued a “Certificate in Non-Profit Management” from the continuing education division of NMCC.

“This program will provide necessary resources and skills to strengthen non-profit leadership as they deal with today’s challenges. The program workshops are designed to offer strategies to improve the effectiveness of executive directors, staff, board members, and key volunteers responsible for the day-to-day operations of non-profit organizations,” said Smith. “We want the sessions to be as informative and helpful as possible, so we encourage participants to interact and provide real-life experiences.”

The cost for each course is \$59. Those who want to enroll in all 8 classes pay only \$425 for the entire certificate program.

For more information on the certificate in non-profit management program or to enroll in any or all of the sessions, please contact the NMCC continuing education division at (207) 768-2845 or npoulin@nmcc.edu.

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