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*For immediate release:*

### **ACC ANNOUNCES DRIVE-THROUGH COMMENCEMENT**

Each year Alpena Community College celebrates its graduates through the Commencement ceremony. This year large public gatherings are still not advisable due to COVID-19 concerns, but ACC has developed a new “drive-through” ceremony which will allow graduates to receive their diploma covers in person and celebrate their academic achievements with family and friends.

#### **ACC Drive-Through Commencement Ceremony**

When: Thursday, May 6, 2021, 5:30 p.m.

Where: Alpena Campus

#### How the Drive-Through Commencement Works:

ACC officials have designated a car route through the Alpena Campus. Graduates will pre-register for the ceremony through the Registrar’s Office and be given a time to arrive on campus for the event. Graduates will be given staggered times to reduce possible traffic congestion around campus. On Commencement day students will drive onto campus using a pre-determined route. A check-in station will be located in front of Besser Technical Center; students will then drive to a reception area in front of Park Arena. At the reception area students can exit their vehicles, receive their diploma covers from ACC President Dr. Don MacMaster, and take pictures in front of an ACC backdrop. Each ACC graduate will be allowed one additional car of friends and family to help them celebrate. Members of the ACC Board of Trustees and ACC faculty and staff will also be on hand to help congratulate the graduates.

While the Drive-Through Commencement will not include traditional activities such as speeches, ACC will produce a Commencement-themed video which will recognize student award winners and recipients of the Distinguished Alumni and Fellow of the College awards. This video will be posted on the ACC website by the day of the Drive-Through Commencement.

The end of Spring Semester marks the end of a unique academic experience for the Class of 2021. These students have persevered during unprecedented disruptions to education, and ACC is proud of them for remaining committed to completing their degrees and certificates despite additional hardships and challenges. This class represents the best of the Lumberjack spirit.

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