

MEDIA RELEASE For Immediate Release

Saskatchewan Polytechnic grad employment hits 10-year high

98 per cent of employers say they'd hire another of the polytech's grads

January 15, 2015 – In two related surveys, Saskatchewan Polytechnic has received top marks from both graduates and employers for the quality of its programming.

A graduate employment survey, for instance, found that the employment rate for new Saskatchewan Polytechnic graduates has reached a 10-year high, increasing to 94 per cent. A survey of employers, meanwhile, found that 98 per cent would hire one of the institution's grads again.

"Saskatchewan Polytechnic's applied learning approach provides graduates with in-demand skills," says Dr. Larry Rosia, president and CEO. "Students often have job offers before completing their studies and embarking upon their new careers."

Sask Polytech surveys new graduates six to 12 months after they graduate. The most recent survey found that virtually all available-to-work graduates from some Sask Polytech schools were employed. Graduate satisfaction with program quality was 95 per cent.

The grad employment survey found that employment of Aboriginal graduates is up sharply by eight percentage points to 90 per cent, matching the previous high two years earlier.

Employers of the new graduates are also surveyed annually. The most recent employer survey found that 98 per cent were satisfied with Sask Polytech's ability to prepare graduates for employment in their field.

Sask Polytech's graduate employment rate tops or matches polytechnics in Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario.

Saskatchewan Polytechnic serves 26,000 distinct students through applied learning opportunities at campuses in Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina and Saskatoon, and through extensive distance education opportunities. Programs serve every economic and public service sector. As a polytechnic, the organization provides the depth of learning appropriate to employer and student need, including certificate, diploma and degree programs, and apprenticeship training. Saskatchewan Polytechnic engages in applied research, drawing on faculty expertise to support innovation by employers, and providing students the opportunity to develop critical thinking skills.

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Information about Saskatchewan Polytechnic can be found at <u>www.saskpolytech.ca</u>.