



**RCE** REGIONAL CENTRE  
OF EXPERTISE  
ON EDUCATION  
FOR SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
**SASKATCHEWAN**



**For Immediate Release**

## **Innovative Research, Projects and Activities Promoting Education for Sustainable Development Celebrated**

**June 15, 2011** – The Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development in Saskatchewan (RCE Saskatchewan) will celebrate this year’s successful nominations for the Education for Sustainable Development Recognition Award at SIAST Palliser Campus tomorrow.

Media are invited to attend:

**Event:** RCE Saskatchewan Education for Sustainable Development Recognition Award

**Date:** Thursday, June 16, 2011

**Time:** 9:30 a.m.

**Location:** SIAST Palliser Campus  
Macoun Lounge  
Saskatchewan St. & 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW  
Moose Jaw SK

The RCE Saskatchewan Recognition Program provides recognition to innovative research, projects and activities promoting Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in the prairie region. The intent is to celebrate the efforts of organizations and individuals who are building capacity for ESD in Saskatchewan. Sustainable development has been defined as *development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs*, which implies improving the quality of life while living within the carrying capacity of supporting ecosystems. Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) engages people to transform their individual and organizational activities in a way that promotes sustainable livelihoods and sustainable ways of living.

The Regional Centre of Expertise (RCE) on ESD program is a global initiative of the United Nations University-Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS) to advance the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014). RCE Saskatchewan is one of 55 RCEs globally acknowledged by the United Nations University, its goal is transformative education that is locally relevant and culturally appropriate. RCE Sask shares knowledge and insights with other RCEs around the world and integrates environmental, social, economic and cultural dimensions of sustainability. RCE Saskatchewan’s Recognition

Program has been supported by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment and has been led by post-secondary education institutions, including SIAST, the University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan, among others.

“Saskatchewan is a growing province and our goal is to find the balance between positive growth and environmental stewardship,” Deputy Minister of Environment Elizabeth Quarshie said. “The people and organizations being recognized here have demonstrated a commitment to maintaining our quality of life in Saskatchewan and are providing leadership for others to follow.”

Co-coordinators of RCE Saskatchewan, Lyle Benko and Roger Petry indicated they were overwhelmed by both the quantity and quality of applications received for this regional event.

Lyle Benko, co-coordinator of RCE Saskatchewan said, “It gives great satisfaction to see not only the quantity of applications, but specifically the exceptional quality of those who have achieved much with their focus on sustainable actions, as well as the new learning and educational opportunities that have been gained for our region. Particularly exciting are the achievements accomplished by our youth. This shows the potential for a sustainable future not only locally for their community, but also regionally for RCE Saskatchewan and globally for our other RCEs in the world.”

Dr. Roger Petry, co-coordinator of RCE Saskatchewan and a faculty member at Luther College said, “It is wonderful to be able to recognize such diversity of educational initiatives in our own region, advancing human well-being and ecosystem health. So often we look elsewhere for the success stories, rather than in our own backyard.”

**For more information on the RCE Saskatchewan’s Recognition Program visit: [www.saskrce.ca](http://www.saskrce.ca)**

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