FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canadian Space Agency lands at SIAST

Science careers focus of workshops for SIAST’s Basic Education students

Prince Albert, March 12, 2012 – Kristin Rodzinyak, a student Research Assistant at the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) who is currently completing her Master’s degree in geology at McGill University will host hands-on workshops at SIAST Woodland Campus tomorrow with SIAST’s Basic Education students. The opportunity, made possible through the participation of a SIAST instructor at the CSA’s Space Educator Conference last August, provides a first-hand look at scientific advancements and discoveries related to space exploration.

The workshops will include a hands-on Mars exploration experience aimed at simulating some of the challenges faced during space missions. The second workshop will focus on the diversity and life of organisms that thrive in harsh environments and how astrobiologists use this information to search for life beyond Earth.

Basic Education program head Cathy Bendle says, “We are excited to have the Canadian Space Agency present to our campus. This experience will give our students a chance to hone communication, teamwork and problem-solving skills and see the benefits of learning biology, chemistry and geology.”

The general presentation to the campus later in the afternoon will focus on careers in sciences for students in Canada and around the world.

Della Anaquod, SIAST’s dean of Basic Education, says, “This is a wonderful opportunity for our students. It will help drive home the importance of continuing their education and that acquiring their sciences can lead to fantastic career opportunities including avenues in space exploration.”

SIAST is Saskatchewan’s primary public institution for post-secondary technical education and skills training, recognized nationally and internationally for its expertise
and innovation. Through program and course registrations, SIAST serves 26,000
distinct students with programs that touch every sector of the economy. SIAST
operates campuses in Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina and Saskatoon, and provides a
number of courses and programs through distance education.
Media are invited to attend.*

Event: Canadian Space Agency Visit
Date: Tuesday, March 13, 2012
Location: SIAST Woodland Campus
          Prince Albert SK

Presentations: How to Explore Mars
               Academic Centre AC252 & AC254, 9:15 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
               AC252 & AC254, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

               Life in Extreme Environments
               Academic Centre AC236, 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 a.m.

               General Presentation
               Technical Centre Gym, 2:15 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

*Media please contact Cathy Bendle at 765-1711 if you are interested in attending one
of the sessions in the Academic Centre.

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Information about SIAST can be found at www.goSIAST.com.