FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canadian Forces accredits SIAST programs

Applicants to four Health programs may qualify for subsidy

March 16, 2012 – Four SIAST Health programs are now recognized by the Canadian Forces. As a result, prospective students may apply to the military for an educational subsidy in return for a service commitment. The four programs are Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT), Medical Radiological Technology (MRT), Primary Care Paramedic and Dental Assisting programs.

Prospective students can enlist with the Canadian Forces, choose their military trade and receive a list of accredited programs and locations within Canada. SIAST’s MLT, MRT, Dental Assisting and Primary Care Paramedic programs are on that list. Successful applicants are covered financially by the Canadian Forces for tuition, books and academic equipment, and receive a full salary and benefits while studying; additional benefits include guaranteed employment when graduating from SIAST.

"Participating in the Medical Laboratory Technologist program as a member of the Canadian Forces was an exceptionally positive experience," says SIAST alum Bradley McKibbin of the Canadian Forces. "Financial and job security allowed me to fully focus on my studies, getting the most out of my experiences at Kelsey Campus, and to immerse myself in my clinical rotation."

SIAST’s MLT two-year diploma program provides an important link between leading-edge lab science and individualized patient care. The MRT two-year diploma program develops students’ competencies in the techniques and equipment used in diagnostic imaging departments. Dental Assisting is a certificate program allowing graduates to work both independently and as part of a team that assists dentists, dental hygienists and dental therapists. The Primary Care Paramedic certificate program prepares students to be part of a health care team working in pre-hospital emergency care.

"Our programs are very pleased to have this partnership with the Canadian Forces. The benefits of having financial support and future career options are significant for
students,” says Lynda Kushnir Perkul, SIAST’s dean of Science and Health. “This is a win-win for sure.”

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.

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