FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SIAST Dental Day opens doors for food bank

Dental students provide dental care to low income patients

May 4, 2012 - Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting students at SIAST Wascana Campus in Regina have been busy preparing for the first annual SIAST Dental Day. Offered in partnership with the Regina Food Bank, SIAST students will provide dental care to people who have been unable to access treatment due to lack of income, transportation and/or child care or because they do not have a regular dentist.

Funding for SIAST’s Dental Day is provided in part by the Public Health Agency of Canada. Sinclair Dental is sponsoring all dental supplies for this event, and Oral B is sponsoring lunch for everyone participating. Child care will be available for the day. Fourteen dentists and two denturists, along with a number of dental assistants, dental hygienists, dental therapists, SIAST faculty, staff and students, have volunteered their time and expertise for this event to be a success. Many of the dentists involved are specialized in different areas.

“This is a great example of a collaboration of professionals wanting to service a need within their community,” says Dean Lefebvre, Dental Hygiene instructor at SIAST Wascana Campus. “The Regina Food Bank is pleased to partner with SIAST and their sponsors to deliver this special day, ” says Emily Best of the Regina Food Bank. “We would like to thank SIAST, the sponsors and all the people who have so generously volunteered their time to help deliver a much needed service to our community.”

Forty-five people are expected to participate in this one day event on campus.

Media are welcome to attend.

Event: SIAST Dental Day
Date: Saturday, May 5, 2012
Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
The SIAST Dental Hygiene program has been providing dental care services for low-income clients since the clinic was opened on campus. Students work under the guidance of licensed dentists and dental hygienists to provide a variety of dental services including oral health assessment, oral cancer screening, debridement (cleaning), fluoride, home care instruction, dental sealants and treatment of dental hypersensitivity. The campus clinic is also open to members of the general public throughout the school year. For hours of operation or to book an appointment, please call 306-775-7531.

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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