

MEDIA RELEASE

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SIAST Dental Clinic opens to the public

SIAST Wascana hygiene students accepting new, returning clients

September 27, 2011 – Dental Hygiene students at SIAST Wascana Campus in Regina have been busy polishing up on their oral care knowledge and skills and getting ready to accept clients into the school's on-campus dental hygiene clinic.

Second-year students enrolled in SIAST's Dental Hygiene program work under the guidance of licensed dentists and dental hygienists. An appointment is similar to a dental hygiene appointment in a private practice dental office, but each aspect takes students a little longer to complete because they consult frequently with their instructors. Services offered include oral health assessment, oral cancer screening, debridement (cleaning), fluoride, home care instruction, dental sealants and treatment of dental hypersensitivity. The cost is \$40 and includes all required appointments.

"The Dental Hygiene Clinic is proud to be able to provide this service to the local community," says Brenda Udahl, SIAST Dental Hygiene program head. "It's a win-win situation for everyone; the students get to put their learned knowledge and skills into practise, and clients receive access to oral health care services at a reduced-cost."

The campus dental clinic is currently accepting both new and returning clients. "Many of our repeat visitors are seniors," states Udahl. "They value the service that we are able to offer them, and quite enjoy being a part of our students' learning environment."

The Dental Hygiene Clinic is open to the general public on Monday afternoons from 1:15 to 3:30 p.m., and Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8:45 to 10:45 a.m. Appointments are required and last for the entire two-hour time slot. More than one appointment is necessary to complete all of the work. Clients can book their appointment by calling 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. More than 15,000 students were enrolled in SIAST programs in the

most recent academic year; additionally, the organization drew almost 25,000 individual course registrations. Through program and course registrations, SIAST served almost 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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For more information, contact:

Jen Pilsner
SIAST Communications
Bus: 775-7713
Cell: 527-5583
Email: jen.pilsner@siast.sk.ca

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