



SIAST

SASKATCHEWAN INSTITUTE OF
APPLIED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

SIAST GETTs girls interested in trades, technology *Camp introduces girls to new green technologies*

July 24, 2009 – A total of 60 Grade 7 and 8 students will participate in six, one-week-long camps at SIAST campuses during the month of July. Girls Exploring Trades and Technology (GETT) camps introduce girls to industrial trades and technical career choices.

The camp provides an environment for girls to use shop tools in a safe and supported setting. The camp also works to dispel many prevailing myths about the physical, mental and academic requirements for trades and technical occupations. Through hands-on workshops and interaction with women who are currently employed in trades and technology, the girls are able to discover new career possibilities that compliment their own talent, skills and abilities.

“Participation by industry role models, who discuss and demonstrate their own skills, is probably the single most important factor in influencing girls’ career decisions. These girls can easily imagine themselves walking in the same shoes as the women they meet at the camp,” says executive director of Saskatchewan Women in Technology and Trade (WITT) Valerie Overend.

This year, GETT camp participants are going “green,” building a model wind turbine, plus the camp’s annual favourite project, designing and building go-carts. Each GETT camp wraps up with a barbecue and a fun competition in which the girls race their go-carts. The girls are recognized for their achievements at a short awards ceremony.

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 13,000 students are registered in SIAST programs, which touch every sector of the economy; additionally, the organization draws almost 32,000 individual course registrations. It 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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