

## ***NEWS RELEASE***

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**Editors:** A bio on Sandy Hass follows this release.

# **Well-known veterinary technologist receives honorary diploma**

Hass recognized for dedication to profession and students

**Saskatoon** – A well-known Saskatchewan veterinary technologist has been awarded an honorary diploma in Veterinary technology from the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology. Sandy Hass received the diploma at the annual SIAS Kelsey graduation ceremony held today in Saskatoon.

“Sandy’s lifelong work as a dedicated volunteer, her advocacy for the veterinary technology profession and her noteworthy contributions to SIAS were all strong factors in the committee’s unanimous recommendation that she be named this year’s honorary diploma recipient,” says Dr. Bob McCulloch, president and CEO of SIAS.

SIAS’s honorary diploma program recognizes people for distinguished achievements and contributions aligned with SIAS’s vision, values, goals and objectives.

“I am pleased to receive an honorary diploma from the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology,” says Sandy Hass. “I have had a long relationship with SIAS both as a member and chair of the veterinary technology program advisory committee and by providing opportunities for student learning.”

Sandy Hass has been actively involved with the Saskatchewan Association of Veterinary Technologists since 1989 and was instrumental in starting the Canadian Association of Animal Health Technologists & Technicians, and the International Veterinary Nurses & Technicians Association. She has been involved with SIAST's Veterinary Technology program since the early 90's both as a member and chair of the program advisory committee and by providing opportunities for student learning at a feedlot where she was employed.

Sandy was the guest speaker at SIAST Kelsey Campus's two graduation ceremonies today. Almost 1,500 students are graduating from SIAST Kelsey Campus this year; they are among approximately 4,000 students who will graduate from SIAST across the province.

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 12,000 students are registered in SIAST programs, which touch every sector of the economy; additionally, the organization draws more than 28,000 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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Additional information about SIAST can be found at [www.goSIAST.com](http://www.goSIAST.com)

## **Sandy Hass**

Sandy has been a member of the Saskatchewan Association of Veterinary Technologists (SAVT) since 1984, serving on the board from 1989 to 1996. At the present time she is serving as chair of the SAVT conference organizing committee (4th year now), is on the Advisory Council and serves as a board member 'mentor'. Sandy was a member and chair of the Kelsey Campus Veterinary Technology Program Advisory Board (in Saskatoon) from 1996-2005. She has served on the board of the Canadian Association of Animal Health Technologists and Technicians (CAAHTT), being one of the key players in the start up of the national association in 1988. She has been chairperson of the organizing committee for two national annual conferences for CAAHTT and in 1997 CAAHTT hired her as the first contracted Executive Director.

Her many community and professional contributions also include volunteering with the Asquith Baptist Church, the Saskatoon Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society, school and youth sports, and Saskatchewan 4-H as a local Club Leader and as district executive, participating in provincial events. She has been recognized by the Asquith community, the Saskatchewan Association of Veterinary Technologists and the Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians.