

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

SIAS Kelsey celebrates expansion

Students in Industrial and Technology programs benefit

September 4, 2007 – SIAS faculty, staff, students and government officials were on hand to celebrate completion of recent upgrades to SIAS Kelsey Campus in Saskatoon valued at \$6.95 million. The expansion involved construction of new facilities for some Industrial and Technology programs as well as upgraded equipment in the Industrial Mechanics programs.

“SIAS is a major player in delivering the skills training that is so much in demand in the expanding Saskatchewan economy,” says Honourable Warren McCall, Minister of Advanced Education & Employment. “With these major renovations, SIAS’s Kelsey Campus is better able to help meet that demand with no compromise in the quality for which SIAS graduates are so well known.”

“We take pride in our ability to provide students with modern training areas, equipment and technology that is comparable to what they will use in the workplace,” says Dr. Bob McCulloch, president and CEO of SIAS. “It’s exciting to see faculty and students in action in our newly renovated areas at SIAS Kelsey Campus.”

Construction started in early 2006 and was completed in June 2007.

SIAS 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 11,000 students are registered in SIAS programs, which touch every sector of the economy; additionally, the organization draws more than 29,000 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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A backgrounder is attached. For more information, contact:

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Information about SIAS can be found at www.goSIAS.com.

BACKGROUND

SIAST Kelsey Campus Expansion and Industrial Mechanics Equipment Upgrade

- Renovations announced in 2005; Industrial Mechanics equipment announced in 2006.
- Construction started in early 2006, completed in June 2007.
- 2,060 sq. m of new space added, 2,140 sq. m of existing space renovated.
- 500 more training seats can be accommodated as a result of the renovations, mainly in apprenticeship programs.
- Approx. 2,160 students in Industrial and Technology division programs at SIAST Kelsey Campus.
- Approx. 850 students directly benefiting from renovations (training in areas where renovations occurred – see programs listed below).

Construction of new facilities for Industrial Mechanics, Plumber, Steamfitter-Pipefitter, Sheet Metal Worker, Agricultural Machinery Technician and CAD/CAM Engineering Technology programs	\$5,900,000
Upgrade equipment in the Industrial Mechanics program	<u>1,050,000</u>
	\$6,950,000