

## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

# **SIAST signs on for Project Hero program**

*Tuition-free scholarship benefits children of soldiers killed in the line of duty*

**November 10, 2009** – SIAST is the first Saskatchewan post-secondary institution to step forward with a Project Hero scholarship program that waives tuition and provides \$1,500 for books and supplies.

The Project Hero scholarship program is designed to provide assistance to the children of Canadian Forces personnel who have lost their lives since 2002 while serving overseas in an active mission. An effort involving the Canadian Forces, the program was launched by former Chief of Defence Staff General Rick Hillier and Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Kevin Reed.

“By helping families left behind, Project Hero allows SIAST to express in a small way our appreciation of the men and women who have lost their lives while on duty overseas with Canada’s armed forces,” says Dr. Robert G. McCulloch, president and CEO of SIAST. “It is more than a scholarship – it’s a tribute to people who are willing to put their lives on the line in service to their country.”

The SIAST Project Hero scholarship is renewable for the second year of a diploma program.

Scholarship criteria include:

- be a child dependant of CAF personnel killed in international action since 2002 (Canadian Armed Forces eligibility criteria)
- have completed last grade of high school in Saskatchewan
- meet the academic merit for entrance and have a minimum 65% average from the first year for renewal

For more information please contact SIAST Donor and Alumni Relations at [donations@siast.sk.ca](mailto:donations@siast.sk.ca).

On November 10, the True Patriot Love Foundation, a charitable organization established by corporate and community leaders to support military personnel and their families, will be highlighting SIAST and other post-secondary institutions that support the Project Hero scholarship program.

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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Information about SIAST can be found at [www.goSIAST.com](http://www.goSIAST.com).