

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SIAS Wascana honours outstanding students

Annual graduation and awards ceremonies recognize achievements

June 19, 2008, Regina – SIAS Wascana Campus will honour students tomorrow at its annual awards and graduation ceremonies. During the morning awards ceremony, SIAS will recognize winners of 159 scholarships and awards valued at approximately \$241,000. The afternoon graduation ceremony will recognize the outstanding contributions of a Regina business leader and a SIAS student with the presentation of two major awards – SIAS's Honorary Diploma and the Outstanding Citizenship Award.

This year's **Honorary Diploma** is being presented to Bruce Axelson, principal, Capital Pontiac, for his continued support of SIAS initiatives that foster a learning environment for students. Axelson is actively involved in the GM Automotive Service Education Program (ASEP) in both an advisory capacity and through the sponsorship of GM technicians into the program. Axelson's efforts on behalf of skills education include support of internships for high school students. He has also been involved with such community organizations as the Kinsmen Foundation and the Canadian Cancer Society.

A new SIAS student award – the **Outstanding Citizenship Award** – will be presented to Irene (Tonie) Denouden, a Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan student enrolled at SIAS Wascana Campus. This award is presented to a SIAS student who demonstrates commitment to SIAS and the community, for contributions to the advancement of the campus and SIAS's mission and values, and for the impact that they have made on fellow students.

The awards ceremony will commence at 10 a.m. on June 20, 2008, at the Conexus Arts Centre in Regina, followed by the graduation ceremony at 1 p.m.

SIAS is Saskatchewan's primary public institution for post-secondary technical education and skills training, recognized nationally and internationally for its expertise and innovation. Almost 12,000 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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For more information, contact:

Jen Pilsner
SIAST Marketing and Communications
Bus: (306)775-7713
Cell: (306)527-5583
Email: jen.pilsner@siast.sk.ca

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