

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SIAST Woodland honours outstanding students

Annual graduation and awards ceremonies recognize achievements

June 5, 2008, Prince Albert – SIAST Woodland Campus will honour students tomorrow at its award and graduation ceremonies. A Prince Albert high school teacher will receive special recognition – an honorary diploma. A new award will also be presented during the ceremonies – a SIAST Student Outstanding Citizenship Award.

Carlton Comprehensive High School teacher and Practical and Applied Arts department head Donavon Elliott will receive **SIAST's Honorary Diploma** in Industrial Training for his innovative and creative approach to curriculum development and community involvement in education. An inter-provincial journeyman in the electrical trade, Elliott was instrumental in developing the high school Practical and Applied Arts program in Saskatchewan. He also wrote the high school electrical curriculum for the province. Elliott worked with SIAST and the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission in the development of transfer credits for high school electrical courses. Elliott is also the chairperson of Skills Saskatchewan.

A new SIAST-wide award – the **SIAST Student Outstanding Citizenship Award** – will be presented to the entire class of the Industrial Mechanics program. The award is presented to students who demonstrate commitment to SIAST and surrounding area communities, for contributions to the advancement of the campus and SIAST's mission and values, and for the impact they have made on fellow students.

SIAST will present 124 scholarships and awards to students for their achievements during the awards ceremony in the morning. The scholarships and awards are valued at almost \$80,000. During the 2007-08 academic year, SIAST will present more than \$1-million in scholarships and awards across the province. "Numbers like those simply aren't possible without support from businesses, organizations and individuals who contribute to SIAST awards, scholarships and development programs," says Dr. Robert McCulloch, SIAST president and CEO.

The ceremonies commence at 10 a.m. (scholarship) and 1:30 p.m. (graduation and special awards) at the E.A Rawlinson Centre for the Arts.

SIAST 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 SIAST 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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