

NEWS RELEASE

Taking the bus has a whole new meaning for SIAST students

City of Saskatoon donates '91 Flyer Coach to train mechanics

March 12, 2007 – Thanks to the generosity of Saskatoon Transit, the SIAST Heavy Equipment and Truck and Transport (HETT) program is now the proud owner of a 1991 Flyer D40 Motor Coach.

Recently retired from active service on city streets, the transit bus will be used for mechanic training. In addition, Saskatoon Transit Services also donated a number of “spare parts,” such as heavy duty automatic transmissions, bus alternators and differentials, which will make excellent training aids.

“Saskatoon Transit’s generous contribution is a valuable addition to the training equipment in our Heavy Equipment and Truck and Transport program,” said Denis Caron, SIAST dean of industrial training. “With the support of industry partners like Saskatoon Transit, our students are working on the same equipment that is operating on city streets throughout the province.”

Students will use the bus to train on brake and steering systems, electrical, transmission and repair, diesel engine tune-up and diagnosis and passenger comfort-control systems.

“Saskatoon Transit is very pleased to make this donation of an out-of-service bus to the Heavy Equipment and Truck and Transport program at SIAST Kelsey Campus,” said Jeff Balon, Saskatoon Transit Manager. “We hope the hands-on experience of working on this bus will encourage students to consider being part of our team in the future.”

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.

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