

## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

# **SIAST Palliser grad honours students**

*Moose Jaw's city manager to be awarded honorary diploma*

**April 29, 2010** – SIAST Palliser Campus will honour students tomorrow during the annual graduation ceremony. Brent Waldo, SIAST board of directors member; Dr. Robert McCulloch, SIAST president and CEO, and other dignitaries will be on hand for the presentation of four major awards during the SIAST Palliser Campus graduation ceremony. The awards include a SIAST honorary diploma, a SIAST Student Outstanding Citizenship Award, and two Governor General's Academic Medals.

A **SIAST honorary diploma** will be awarded to Garry McKay, city manager for Moose Jaw. McKay has been employed by the City of Moose Jaw for 34 years and has contributed significantly to the development of the city. He has a passion for recreation and has provided leadership for the development and renewal of parks, playgrounds, cultural and recreation facilities, community associations and adult recreation leagues in Moose Jaw. He has served on the board of directors of the Parks and Recreation Association, the Wakamow Valley Authority, the South Central Enterprise Region, Moose Jaw REDA, and Habitat for Humanity. McKay is a highly respected graduate and avid supporter of SIAST – he has been the chair of the Palliser Campus Development Foundation for the past eight years. He has also enabled co-operative education students to train within the City of Moose Jaw.

The **SIAST Student Outstanding Citizenship Award** recognizes commitment to the SIAST community beyond the responsibilities of program requirements. This award will be presented to Jenna Wilchuck, who is graduating from the Business Administration program. Wilchuck has shown great leadership and commitment to her fellow students. She has served on the Palliser Students' Association, most recently as president for Palliser Campus. She has taken on additional roles, including student representative on the Moose Jaw Chamber of Commerce, co-chair of SIAST Palliser Campus Binge Drinking Awareness Campaign, co-chair of the Shinerama Day, and co-host of the "Off Campus" radio show. Jenna completed her Marketing diploma in 2009 and plans to complete her Human Resources diploma in the future.

The prestigious **Governor General's Academic Medals** will be presented to Deborah Nelson and Christopher Silvius by Dr. Robert McCulloch on behalf of the Governor General of Canada. Nelson, a graduate of the Adult 12 Basic Education program, will receive the Governor General's Bronze Medal. Silvius, a graduate of the Civil Engineering Technology program and recipient of the Frank P. Remai Achievement Scholarship, the Frank P. Remai Civil Engineering Technology Centennial Merit Scholarship Year 2, the Mike Bohn Memorial Scholarship and the Regina Engineering Society Award, will receive the Governor General's Collegiate Bronze Medal.

Media are invited to attend:

**Date:** Friday, April 30, 2010  
**Time:** 1:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Hildebrand Chapel  
Caronport SK

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 14,000 students were enrolled in SIAST programs in the most recent academic year; additionally, the organization drew almost 30,000 individual course registrations. Through program and course registrations, SIAST served almost 26,000 distinct students with programs that touch every sector of the economy. SIAST operates campuses in Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina and Saskatoon, and provides a number of courses and programs through distance education.

– 30 –

For more information, contact:

Kim Mack, SIAST Marketing and Communications  
Office: (306) 691-8513  
Mobile: (306) 630-9968  
Email: kim.mack@siast.sk.ca

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