

## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

# **Oil and Gas Production Operator certificate on offer at SIAST**

*Industry specific education will focus on safety and productivity*

**May 19, 2010** – Training is available for the first time through SIAST that will prepare students to work as operators in the oil and gas industry.

“The oil and gas industry is expanding in Saskatchewan. Business and employment opportunities are being created in the exploration, drilling, service and refining sectors,” says Les Erikson, continuing education consultant at SIAST. “People need industry specific knowledge and skills to be able to work safely and productively. We are very proud of the partnerships we have established to bring high-quality training courses and expertise to Saskatchewan.”

SIAST recently partnered with the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) and combined its courses in the Oil and Gas Production Level 1 program with oil-and-gas-related occupational health and safety training, employment readiness tutorials, job search techniques, resume writing, interview skills and communication skills.

The program is being offered at SIAST Woodland Campus in Prince Albert from May 3 to June 25. Upon completion, students will receive a NAIT Oil and Gas Production Operator Level 1 certificate, OH&S certificates and a SIAST Statement of Attendance. Erikson plans to deliver the program again in the fall at SIAST Woodland Campus and hopes that it will be offered throughout SIAST continuing education programming by 2011-12.

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:

Daphne May  
Continuing Education Marketing Specialist  
Tel: (306) 659-3799  
Cell: (306) 229-2842

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