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# News Release

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## MP MAURICE VELLACOTT ANNOUNCES GOVERNMENT OF CANADA INVESTMENT IN THE SASKATCHEWAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

**Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, June 12, 2009** — On behalf of the Honourable Gary Goodyear, Minister of State for Science and Technology, Maurice Vellacott, Member of Parliament for Saskatoon-Wanuskewin, along with Serge LeClerc, MLA for Saskatoon Northwest, today announce a Knowledge Infrastructure Program investment of \$12.9 million in SIAST (the Saskatchewan Institute of Science and Technology).

This investment is part of the federal government's two-year, \$2-billion plan to repair and expand research and educational facilities at Canadian colleges and universities. The program is helping to provide economic stimulus and promote employment by creating jobs for engineers, architects, tradespeople and technicians. It is also helping to generate the advanced technological infrastructure needed to keep Canada's colleges and universities at the forefront of scientific advancement.

"This Government of Canada investment in SIAST will provide a significant short-term economic stimulus to Saskatoon and will create jobs in this region," said Vellacott. "Our government is investing in innovation to create jobs, to help our economy recover quickly and to improve the quality of life for Canadians."

The Saskatchewan Institute of Science and Technology was awarded \$12.9 million for their Health Technologies Project. The federal government is providing \$6.177 million of this total project cost.

"Investing in post-secondary education is always a smart decision," says Dr. Robert G. McCulloch, president and CEO of SIAST. "The infrastructure investment announced today is especially good news because it has so many positive benefits: It will give SIAST's Saskatoon nursing and health students access to a state-of-the-art simulation learning centre, and it will support a 25-seat expansion of nursing education. It will provide contemporary learning space for our Basic Education students. And it will provide for the long-term viability and year-round use of a historically significant building."

Canada's Economic Action Plan sets out to stimulate the Canadian economy over the next two years and to improve our long-term competitiveness through \$12 billion in new infrastructure investment, which includes the \$2-billion Knowledge Infrastructure Program. This new support is the next substantive investment in the Government of Canada's multi-year Science and Technology Strategy, *Mobilizing Science and Technology to Canada's Advantage*.

For more information about the Knowledge Infrastructure Program, including program criteria and application instructions, please visit [www.ic.gc.ca/knowledge-infrastructure](http://www.ic.gc.ca/knowledge-infrastructure).

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**For further comment, call for Maurice Vellacott at (613) 992-1966 or (613) 297-2249 or for Serge LeClerc at (306) 934-2847.**



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