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# News Release

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## MP MAURICE VELLACOTT ANNOUNCES GOVERNMENT OF CANADA INVESTMENT IN THE SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGIES

**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 \$2.143 million in SIIT (the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies).

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 SIIT 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 Indian Institute of Technologies was awarded \$2.143 million for their Saskatoon Campus Technical and Building Upgrade. The federal government is providing \$1.0715 million of this total project cost.

"The Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT) is very pleased and honoured to receive funds to increase our capacity within our existing facilities," said Randell Morris, President of SIIT. "We appreciate the confidence the Government of Canada has in our institution and in our ability to produce quality graduates who will enhance the economy and help increase the First Nations labour force in the province. This investment supports the quality of education that SIIT has been providing to students for over 33 years."

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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