



April 6, 2010

## News Release

For immediate release:

### **READY TO WORK PARTICIPANTS HOST VIP LUNCHEON IN SASKATOON**

SASKATOON – On Friday, April 9, 2010 a group of 18 students will host a VIP luncheon to showcase some of the skills they are acquiring in the Ready to Work – Tourism Careers (RTW) Food and Beverage/Prep Cook program. The luncheon will take place at St. John’s Anglican Cathedral (Parish Hall) at 816 Spadina Crescent East from 12:00-1:00pm. In attendance will be Honourable Rob Norris, MLA for Saskatoon Greystone.

RTW is a career awareness, skills development, and transition to employment program that assists individuals in finding long-term, rewarding careers in the tourism sector. It is coordinated nationally through the Canadian Tourism Human Resource Council (CTHRC) and delivered in Saskatchewan by the Saskatchewan Tourism Education Council (STEC) with support from federal, provincial, and community partners. In Saskatoon, these partners include Saskatoon Trade and Skills Centre, Service Canada, Can-Sask Career and Employment Services, and St. John’s Anglican Cathedral.

“The tourism sector in Saskatchewan has many excellent career opportunities, but there are currently significant skills shortages in key areas of the sector,” Ms. Carol Lumb, STEC Director, said. “The Ready to Work program assists us in bringing together the opportunities that tourism employers have to offer with individuals who are eager to enter the workforce and will develop strong entry-level skills over the course of the program.”

This program offers practical classroom instruction, hands-on skills training, and on-the-job mentoring to under-represented groups interested in transitioning from unemployment and/or underemployment to the tourism workforce. Since its inception in 1994, nearly 40 communities in Saskatchewan and over 2,600 individuals have participated in the RTW program, found long-term rewarding careers, returned to school, and/or moved from frontline to supervisory positions.

If you plan on attending this event, please RSVP to Cindy Wright at (306) 933-5928 or 1-800-331-1529. This will ensure that you have the opportunity to taste the wonderful cooking and service of the participants!

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**For more information, please contact:**

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