



March 29, 2007

For Immediate Release

****SABIS® Expands to Canada Starting September 2008****

The strengths of two well-established groups from Canada and the U.S. were combined on Friday, March 16th, 2007 in Montreal, Canada, to shape the future of private education in Canada.

Several days of meetings between SABIS® Educational Systems (SABIS®), a Minnesota-based international education company, and members of the Shawa Group International (SGI), a real estate and investment group based in Montreal, Canada, led to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding and the formation of ground-breaking cross-border cooperation, bringing new scientific and linguistic options to Canadians who aim to attend top universities around the world.

Mr. Carl Bistany, SABIS® President, and Hasan Al-Shawa, President & CEO of Shawa Enterprises Canada Corp., member of the Shawa Group International, signed the memorandum to establish the formation of this educational partnership to start the first private, college-preparatory K-12 school in Montreal in the fall of 2008. Following the successful implementation of this model school in Montreal, additional schools will open in other metropolitan areas in Canada.



Mr. Hasan Al-Shawa (left) and Mr. Carl Bistany exchange a handshake after signing MOU.

The **SABIS® International School of Montreal** will be managed and operated by SABIS®. Set to open in September of 2008, the school will cater to students – nationals as well as international students – in grades pre-K to 6th grade initially, with subsequent grade levels added each year thereafter until the school offers a full K-12 program.

Banking on the strong business foundation and support of SGI, its network and contacts in Canada as well as common educational objectives, SABIS® will set out to prepare all students with a high-quality education, allowing them access to top colleges and universities around the world.

Mr. Al-Shawa reported that his group is happy with the new partnership with SABIS®. “The deal is one more proud achievement to add to our successful record of investments,” he said. “When we decided to venture into the education sector in Canada, we wanted to ensure that our involvement reflected our high regard for the

honorable pursuit of education to our team and clients. We are very keen to see this venture operate according to the high standards we have established in our projects around the world. Therefore, SABIS® was our first choice,” he continued.

Mr. Al-Shawa added that such a school will be a great asset for Montreal. “Montreal has very few private international schools. The population is quite under-served in this sector.”

“We are pleased to enter a partnership with SGI in this ground-breaking venture,” stated Mr. Bistany. “Our shared commitment to providing the highest-quality education along with a long-standing track record of success worldwide will ensure the success of this project and all others which follow.”

SABIS® is a major leader in the educational field with roots in the 19th century. SABIS® currently operates 41 schools in 14 countries on four continents and educates 33,000 students.

For enquiries about the new **SABIS® International School of Montreal**, please call: (514)-844-8500, or e-mail: school@sgi.st

For more information on SABIS® or SGI, visit www.sabis.net or www.sgi.st.

##