



COMMUNITY
learningcampus

Action Plan and Schematic Design Report

March, 2005



“Growing Together – Learning Forever”



Group 2 Architecture Engineering Interior Design
200 - 4706 48th Avenue, Red Deer, AB T4N 6J4
Tel: (403) 340-2200 Fax: (403) 346-6570



Table of Contents

Executive Summary	1
Background	5
CLC = Education Opportunities for All Learners	5
CLC: Connecting to the Community	6
Prior Approvals	8
Growing Together - Common Goals for Rural Alberta	8
Steering Committee	12
Consultant Design Team	12
Benefits	14
Connecting Government Policy to Rural Albertans	14
CLC: Delivering on the Go Alberta Strategy	14
CLC: Delivering on the Rural Development Initiative	15
CLC: Delivering on Campus Alberta	17
Learning Plan	19
Signatures of Support	20
Learning Audience	23
Learning Signature	23
Learning Expectations	24
Learning Process	24
Learning Organization	25
Learning Partnerships	28
Learning Staffing	32
Learning Environment	34
Learning Accountability	38
Learning Celebration	40
Learning Finance	41

Table of Contents

Action Plan	43
Taking the Next Step	43
Planning Participants	43
Governance Structure	46
Program Development & Implementation	49
Relationships	58
Project Work Plan	63
Facility Plan	66
Introduction	66
Design Committee	67
Sustainable Strategies	69
Site Plan	71
Core High School	75
Health & Wellness Facility	79
eLearning Core	84
Fine Arts & Multi-Media Centre	89
Chinook's Edge Transportation Maintenance Facility	93
Sustainable Prototype	94
CLC Area & Cost Summary	94
Partnerships & Support	96
Partnerships	96
Letters of Support	97
Technical Information	98

Executive Summary

Today's Alberta

As Alberta moves beyond its first centennial, it embarks on a new era of expanded technology, globalization, and innovation. The world is evolving rapidly and Alberta works hard to remain competitive. Government policy is forward thinking, the province's research and development is recognized around the globe, and people across the country and around the world choose Alberta as their place to work and play.



One downside of change involves the shift of youth to large urban centres. This population movement is hurting Alberta's rural communities – starving them of the physical and intellectual resources they need to sustain themselves. As a result, infrastructure and families suffer.

Today's Alberta seeks to build back these rural communities – in part, by using new technologies to encourage young people to remain. To do this requires an effort to provide them with the opportunities they feel are only available in Calgary and Edmonton.

“The retention and attraction of human capital to small-town Alberta is crucial to the creation of this project.”

-Tom (H.J.) Thompson, President and CEO, Olds College

Unleashing Innovation in Rural Alberta

Out of the need for a provincial focus on rural growth and sustainability, the Community Learning Campus (CLC) was born. Chinook's Edge School Division and Olds College, partners in the CLC project, combined intellect, ideals, and spirit to shape a new path for rural educational delivery.

The CLC is an innovative initiative that represents a ground breaking approach to learning for students in rural Alberta. Integrated with the Olds College campus, the facilities of the CLC – a Core High School, eLearning Core, Health & Wellness Facility, and Fine Arts & Multi Media Centre – will provide the physical framework from which to build opportunities for all learners.

More than just inspiring architecture, the CLC Learning Plan will be one of the most innovative approaches to high school and community education in the world. Its purpose is to help high school students make a seamless transition to the workplace, trades apprenticeships, college, or university. The plan also provides a greater platform for citizens within the Town of Olds and the surrounding area to upgrade their education.

Executive Summary

Along with being a leading learning institution, the CLC will become a Rural Centre of Excellence for rural programs and innovation. It will promote and foster partnerships in regional cooperation that is key to rural economic development and success, and it will allow rural resource revenues to go back into rural infrastructure.

A truly collaborative effort that has expanded to include multiple stakeholders, the CLC sets a new standard for the future of rural communities. It also serves as a rural development model that will be a benchmark for the province, the country, and the continent.



“We share a vision for a centre of learning excellence whose magnitude is unmatched.”

*- Jim Gibbons, Superintendent,
Chinook's Edge School Division*

First Steps

The CLC vision began as a recognized need to upgrade Olds Jr/Sr High School and campus that is currently divided by Highway 27 on the west end of the Town of Olds. Chinook's Edge School Division received approval for \$6.8 million to modernize the 50-year-old school, but, after feedback was received from stakeholders, the division sought an alternative solution that would better meet the future goals for students within the community.

This led to a truly innovative idea: a Community Learning Campus shared by the students, the citizens of Olds and surrounding areas, and the students and personnel of Olds College. Through remote facilities, the CLC will also be immediately linked to 11 other sites throughout Red Deer and Mountain View Counties using video conferencing.

The Fusion of Government Policy and Community Vision

The Made in Alberta Solution for the creation of the CLC reflects the vision put forth by the Government of Alberta in their 20 Year Strategy, the Rural Alberta Development Initiative, and the Campus Alberta Initiative (see Figure 1). The simple desire to find a better way of delivering education to secondary students has grown into a unique educational collaboration that reflects many provincial policies.

Executive Summary



The CLC reflects the Rural Alberta Development Initiative's Goal to ensure Rural Albertans have access to high quality learning opportunities.

Figure 1 – The CLC plan delivers rural life-long learning that reflects the Government of Alberta's Go Alberta Strategy, Rural Development Initiative, and Campus Alberta.

Equal Opportunities for All Albertans

The CLC provides stakeholders and government with an opportunity to promote leadership when it comes to ensuring the sustainability of rural communities. It was designed to allow high school students, adult learners, small business owners, entrepreneurs, and community members the opportunity to experience enriched education that is traditionally reserved to people living in large urban centres.

Of vital importance is the desire to create a plan to provide equal opportunities for all learners, regardless of age and training. Operating on a year-round schedule, the CLC will allow students greater flexibility to personalize their academic and work experience terms.

Leading in Learning

The CLC Learning Plan was developed by representatives from Chinook's Edge School Division (staff, students, and parents), Olds College (staff and students), and the communities they serve. Their recommendations provide long-term direction for the CLC to ensure continued educational

Executive Summary

excellence and vitality. The CLC will promote access to rural schools to fill capacity and enhance student retention.

Cost Summary

Totals: Area Summary			
	Current (m2)	Unit Rate (\$/m2)	Cost
Core High School	4,500		\$9,998,273.22
Health & Wellness Facility	8,057		\$16,470,541.39
Fine Arts & Multi Media Centre	2,055		\$5,831,401.81
eLearning Core	3,260		\$7,013,224.35
Remote Facilities			\$562,320.00
Site Development			\$5,901,179.31
Bus Maintenance Facility	333		\$437,149.61
LEED Prototype Project			\$950,000.00
TOTALS	18,205		\$47,164,089.70
Less Funding from Other Sources			\$17,121,178.74
Total Government Request			\$30,042,910.96



The CLC has created a legacy of collaboration, and the community is ready and excited about the possibilities the CLC represents.

The strong public support for the CLC project and the partnerships involved has resulted in a decrease in the overall amount of funding requested from government in the original business case despite an increase in project scope.

Partnerships for Today and Tomorrow

Long after the CLC buildings, budgets, and reports are complete, friendships developed during the course of this project will continue. The unique design process for the CLC has people talking, working together, and looking toward the big picture. A legacy of collaboration has been created, and the community is ready and excited about the possibilities the CLC represents.

Opportunities for the Community - Opportunities for Government

The CLC provides a revolutionary pathway for the future of education, not only within the community of Olds, but also within the Province of Alberta. The spirit behind the CLC reflects the goal of Rural Municipalities in Alberta to keep and attract human capital. It inspires a new generation of learners who desire to live and work in the communities where they were born or raised. Working within the framework of the Government of Alberta's 20 Year Strategy to make Alberta the best place to live, work, and visit, the CLC fosters an environment where Albertans can work together to create a quality of life that meets their dreams.