

January 26, 2007

Olds College receives single largest individual donation in its history

OLDS, ALBERTA, January 26, 2007 – The Board of Governors hosted a special luncheon yesterday in honour of Jack Anderson, a resident of the Calgary area, who presented Olds College with the single largest individual donation in its history.

For more information on Olds College, please visit our Web site at www.oldscollege.ca or call toll free at 1-800-661-6537. To obtain accompanying photographs please contact Sandy Bexon.

CONTACT:

Sandy Bexon
Communications Coordinator
Olds College Advancement
1-800-661-6537, (403) 507-7714,
Or (403) 710-3858 (cell)
sbexon@oldscollege.ca

“Mr. Anderson’s investment of \$1 million is transformational to Olds College, our learners and the industries we serve across this nation,” said H.J. (Tom) Thompson, Olds College President and CEO.

“Jack Anderson is a native Albertan and it is the commitment of leaders like him that built this province. His generosity is allowing Olds College to take that further, as we move ahead to create lasting infrastructure and vital program advancements for our students along their journey of lifelong learning. We are extremely grateful to Mr. Anderson for assisting in this important work.”

The Jack Anderson gift will impact several projects underway through the Olds College 2009 Capital Vision Campaign. The eLearning Core, one of five structures being built at Olds College as part of the Community Learning Campus, will receive \$700,000. Two projects involved at the Centre for the Horticulture Industry will benefit, as \$125,000 will be directed to Phase III of the Olds College Botanic Garden and \$100,000 toward the Landscape Pavilion expansion.

As well, \$50,000 will establish a new W.A. Ranches Ltd. Student Bursary Endowment, and \$25,000 will be directed toward the Olds College Family Gifting program. The \$1 million total investment also allows Olds College to leverage another \$600,000 in matching donations.

“I am very pleased with Olds College and feel that this money is well placed,” said Jack Anderson. “I think agriculture has gone through some difficult times the last few years, and some of the farming and ranching families may not be able to send their kids to college. Hopefully this will make it easier for them.

“I thought Olds College would be a good place to invest, because this College makes good things happen for students and they will make sure this opens opportunities. I have known many people who have come to Olds College and their experiences have all been very good.”

Jack Anderson was joined by his wife, Wendy, and several other members of his family. He is a native Albertan who owns W.A. Ranches west of Calgary. He has built his success through a variety of business and agricultural pursuits.

About Olds College:

Founded in 1913, Olds College's vision is to be the premier Canadian integrated learning and applied research community specializing in agriculture, horticulture, land and environmental management. Located 45 minutes north of Calgary, Olds College prepares students to contribute provincially, nationally and internationally through careers in agriculture, horticulture, environmental land management, agribusiness, and rural entrepreneurship. Olds College provides certificate, diploma and applied degree programs, and participates with other institutions in offering post-diploma degrees. Olds College is further dedicated to nurturing innovation, learning, applied research and commercialization for agribusiness through the School of Innovation.