

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CLC student rep earns Youth Award

October 16, 2006 – When 17 year old Joe Crawford was named Youth of the Year by the Olds Rotary Club, it came as no shock to his fellow members of the Community Learning Campus (CLC) Governance Team.

The grade 12 student has been serving as the Student Rep on the CLC Governance Team since he was elected high school president one year ago. The Governance Team, which is a group of community leaders representing a number of organizations, is charged with the overall CLC programming and construction plans, and Crawford has worked diligently alongside other community leaders such as Mayor Judy Dahl and Reeve Al Kemmere.

“Joe is a very welcome and very competent leader on the Team,” said H.J. (Tom) Thompson, Chair of the Community Learning Campus and President of Olds College. “He is polite, hardworking and very interested in this project. Joe brings great ideas and a wonderful exuberance to the planning table, and he is making an enormous contribution to the CLC.”

Joe Crawford is an honours student and a star athlete. He has contributed in leadership roles on several projects at school and in the community, including joining 900 students from across Canada as a delegate to a national student leadership conference in New Brunswick.

“It was really inspiring to meet so many people and hear all of their great ideas,” said Crawford. “I think it’s exciting to be involved in making things happen, and that’s why I’m enjoying my time working with the CLC. I think this is an amazing project that will go a long way in keeping kids at home, because many of them will be able to at least begin their post-secondary education right here. My sister and brother are both away in college and university right now, and the CLC will have a huge impact on families like mine.”

Crawford is considering studying engineering or business at the University of Alberta, which also has a representative on Governance Team to explore the options of providing certain university level programs through the CLC. As quarterback on the high school football team and a member of the track team, Crawford is also looking forward to the expanded athletic facilities the CLC will offer through its Health & Wellness Facility. His pole vaulting team will no longer have to travel to the city for practice, for instance, because the facility will be large enough to accommodate the entire length of the vaulting runway.

“I will have graduated by the time the CLC opens in 2008, but I’m proud that I’m working towards something that will bring such benefit to others. It will have something for every age group, too, not just high school students. I believe it will revolutionize rural Alberta.”

Joe Crawford and other members of the CLC Governance Team are hosting a Community Information Event this Wednesday, October 18, from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Olds College Student Alumni Centre.

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