



News Release

University of Alberta and Olds College celebrate new agreement

Thousands of students in Alberta will have greater learning opportunities thanks to an agreement announced today between the University of Alberta and Olds College. The deal provides students from both schools with greater freedom to transfer, and it allows both students and teachers shared access to research facilities, among other opportunities.

"This agreement is a great illustration of collaboration and an excellent example of the Campus Alberta vision," said Advanced Education Minister Dave Hancock. "In the 21st century, post-secondary education in Alberta will need to become more integrated and innovative than ever before. I commend each institution for their vision in improving student access to post-secondary opportunities."

Officials from the two schools signed a Memorandum of Understanding in 2000, which opened the door for students to transfer between the schools; the new agreement will "widen the pipeline" between the two schools to provide a more efficient and improved use of resources, said Dr. Rod Fraser, President of the University of Alberta.

"Olds College has an excellent reputation, and we're excited to be able to offer our students and faculty members at the University of Alberta more opportunities in Olds," Fraser said. "This agreement will enhance our ability in Alberta to attract and retain top students and faculty members."

"The broadening scope of the partnership between the University of Alberta and Olds College is creating a multitude of exceptional opportunities for learners in this province and throughout the country," said H.J. (Tom) Thompson, President and CEO of Olds College.

"Both the University of Alberta and Olds College are centres of specialization. This ground-breaking affiliation expands student involvement in research and innovation, and further fulfills several priorities identified by government, fellow learning institutions, industry and members of the community who demand responsive, affordable and accessible delivery of education. Today's signing ceremony establishes a strong pathway for Olds College's own priority of delivering a seamless transition for learners, and it expands the University of Alberta's involvement in rural Alberta. We are extremely pleased and proud to pledge our commitment today."

A steering committee comprised of officials from both the University of Alberta and Olds College will oversee the terms of the agreement and will continue to work to achieve the shared objectives of both institutions. The University of Alberta has entered into this agreement through its Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics.

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