

December 27, 2004

Community invited to share ideas for Community Learning Campus

OLDS, ALBERTA, December 27, 2004 – A public meeting will take place on January 6 at Olds High School to enable area residents to participate in shaping a vision for a Community Learning Campus (CLC) in Olds.

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The CLC steering committee has planned the January 6th meeting to share the vision of the CLC, to describe how the project has developed to this point and to hear the views from members of the community. Participants will be asked for their ideas on how the CLC plan can move forward. Input collected from the public will be used to shape plans for the CLC facility and programming.

In addition to the public session on January 6th, similar sessions have already been held with the staff of Olds College and Olds High School. Craig Webber, Project Architect with Group 2 Architecture Engineering Interior Design, was pleased with the meeting with Olds High School staff on December 15th.

“That meeting was very positive and we received extremely good feedback from teachers,” said Webber. “These meetings are the foundation of collaboration and they provide the opportunity to ensure every voice is included in our planning. Ultimately, it is the information from these sessions that gets carried forward and incorporated into the next design and planning steps. The public meetings are an opportunity for community residents to provide meaningful input into the planning process and we rely on these sessions to provide us with guiding values and principles to proceed forward.”

Olds College staff participated in a similar meeting on December 20 and a day-long visioning workshop involving various community groups is scheduled for January 13. Organizers are expecting a large turnout for the public meeting on January 6.

“I think there is beginning to be a realization of the extreme potential for this project,” said Webber. “It creates boundless opportunities for students, staff and community members to have this unique type of learning environment. Being on the leading edge of how education can be delivered is very exciting, and this is a powerful vision. The Community Learning Campus would bring valuable choices to students and resources to the entire community.

“In the end, the stakeholders in this project are the community members. We would like to give as many people as possible the opportunity to voice their thoughts and priorities. As more and more people see the huge value of this project, I believe they will become ambassadors for the Community Learning Campus. This is an exciting and worthwhile project, and it is in good hands.”

The public meeting takes place at the Olds High School on January 6, 2005, beginning at 7:00 p.m.