

Dual Credit Symposium - October 22, 2010

Sixty-eight representatives from colleges, universities and school divisions across the province gathered at the Community Learning Campus on Friday October 22 for the first-ever Dual Credit Symposium held in Alberta.

Various dual credit pilot projects currently exist throughout the province, with the benefits for students well documented. Dual Credit opportunities allow high school students to earn credit in college courses in tandem with their regular course load. This can ease the transition from high school to college, equip students with a sense of purpose, introduce a variety of course and career options, and familiarize students with the post-secondary culture so that it becomes more inviting.

“When we started the journey into dual credit programming in 2006, we thought about what was best for kids and thought the funding and logistics would come later,” said Pat Bidart, Associate Vice President Academic & International Services at Olds College. “Our pilot project allowed us to provide different models for students throughout Chinook’s Edge, and it is very exciting to hear from others across the province to see where we might take this next.”

Dual credit opportunities for Chinook’s Edge students include welding, meat processing, human relations, fashion, and equine studies, with courses delivered through a blend of on-site programming at Olds College facilities, as well as video-conferencing and other distributed learning technologies.

