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**Attention: Provincial and Education reporters**

# MEDIA RELEASE

*Nine school boards in the running for award*

## **Chinook's Edge School Division wins \$3000 award**

The Chinook's Edge School Division Board of Education received the 2009 Alberta School Boards Association's (ASBA) Premier's Award for School Board Innovation and Excellence. The \$3000 award, sponsored by Xerox Canada, was presented November 22 at the ASBA's Fall Meeting in Edmonton. This is the tenth anniversary of the Premier's Award.

The Community Learning Campus – a joint venture with Olds College – earned the Chinook's Edge School Board the award. The judges were impressed with the partnership between the school board and the college and the unparalleled integration of K to 12 studies with advanced education. High school students may transition to apprenticeship, college or university courses while in their senior years.

Students utilize four newly built facilities constructed on college land. They include: a Core High School, a Health and Wellness Centre, a Fine Arts & Multi-Media Centre and the Bell-e Learning Centre where students have access to high definition video conferencing suites, Global Positioning Systems labs and multi-media labs with a TV production studio. The Fine Arts & Multi-Media Centre features a 390-seat theatre surrounded by band and music rooms, cosmetology and theatre make-up rooms and visual arts and set design facilities. The CLC reaches out to small and distant communities through high end technologies. Child and Family Services, and Alberta Employment and Industry provide integrated services in the Health and Wellness Centre.

“The student focus and personalization of learning in the Community Learning Campus is a reflection of our division's motto: *Where Students Come First*,” said Chinook's Edge Board Chair Ian Taylor. Chinook's Edge serves 11,000 students in Central Alberta.

Five years in planning and construction, the Community Learning Campus has been achieved through a vision shared by several partners, who designed the facilities and programming in an effort to enhance rural community capacity and provide seamless, innovative education for all learners.

For more information contact: Superintendent Jim Gibbons at 1.403.227.7070.

*The Alberta School Boards Association serves and represents all Alberta's public, separate and francophone school boards.*