

# Media Release



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### National Conference set to help students embrace the legacy of leadership

More than 900 student delegates from across Canada will travel to southern Alberta, Sept. 29, 2009, to embrace the legacy of leadership at the 25<sup>th</sup> Canadian Student Leadership Conference, co-hosted by Chinook's Edge and Rocky View Schools.

"Effective student engagement and strong, robust discussion forms the basis of a busy agenda," said Sandy Dorowicz, Chinook Edge's Conference Co-Chair. "We're looking forward to plenty of action coming out of the conference; we can't wait for the students to arrive!"

Running from Sept. 29 to Oct. 3, the five day conference, entitled "Lead the Stampede", offers students the opportunity to gain from the wisdom of keynote speakers such as motivational speaker Ian Tyson, author of Bite-Sized Wisdom, Tyler Durman, and Executive Director and Artist, Me to We Music, Louise Kent. Students' appreciation of the West's progression and cultural diversity also will be enhanced as they participate in a variety of student leadership activities at various venues throughout central Alberta, including Canmore, Banff, Calgary, Cochrane, Olds and Red Deer.

"Student leaders have worked with advisors to plan a jam-packed conference full of meaning and substance, with practical leadership ideas, information and contacts," said Dorothy Karlson, Rocky View Schools' Conference Co-Chair. "We are very excited to see the students engaged in a community service project in Olds on Oct. 3, as well participate in a Heritage Day event at the Calgary Stampede on Oct. 1.

"The entire conference was planned around building skills such as project management, team work, citizenship, time management, communication, public relations and promotion. When our guests return home, we know they will have embraced the legacy of leadership and have the tools to take affirmative action in building strong communities," she said.

Open to the public, the Conference's Opening Ceremonies will kick-off the conference, Sept 29, at the Olds Arena, beginning at 7:30 pm. Organizers are expecting over 2,000 people to attend the parade of student delegates, who will carry their provincial flag into the arena in the order each province entered Confederation.

"Our biggest wish for this conference is that everyone involved has a great and enjoyable time," said Amy Barnett, a grade 12 student from Bow Valley School and Pre-Conference Student Co-Chair. "We have truly tried to put into practice the skills and attitudes we've learned in our leadership groups at school. Planning this conference, for many of us, has been the experience of a lifetime!"

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*The media is invited to attend many of the activities planned for students. FOIP forms have been processed for all participants. For a complete listing of activities and media opportunities, please refer to the attached Media Package. RVSPs would be appreciated.*

#### **For more information or to RVSP your attendance contact:**

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