

## Taking the Season out of Seasonal

### Vision

*Olds College will forge partnerships to create the Centre for the Horticulture Industry (CHI) to promote sustainable landscape and food ecosystems that enhance quality of life and support a vibrant Canadian economy.*

### Landscape Pavilion Facility Expansion

It's a facility where the only season is summer.

The Landscape Construction Pavilion was constructed in 1997 in response to industry requests for Olds College to provide hands-on horticultural training to students during the winter months. Since its official opening, the Bank of Montreal Landscape Construction Pavilion is where the art of shaping the landscape is practiced. Today, demands on the facility exceed the facility's capacity to provide the full spectrum of training required in full-time, part-time and industry related certification programs. Olds College must expand the facilities to better meet the needs of our learners and the horticulture industry.

The Landscape Pavilion Facility Expansion will include the development of a number of specialized lab facilities: an irrigation lab, an aerial rescue/climbing lab and a landscape installation lab. Shop-style classrooms will be incorporated into the existing Storage Annex and an indoor connecting link will be constructed to join three adjacent facilities: the School of Horticulture Greenhouses, the Pavilion Shop Classrooms/Storage Annex and the existing Bank of Montreal Landscape Construction Pavilion.

The expansion will allow for increased enrolment in the School of Horticulture's Arboriculture, Landscape Management, Turf Management and Landscape Gardener Apprenticeship programs while enhancing practical hands-on training. Expansion will enable Olds College to provide the Horticulture industry with additional graduates with the necessary skills to be successful in their chosen careers.

### Impacting the Horticulture Industry

The horticulture industry faces many challenges such as recruitment, development, and retention of a skilled workforce. At the same time, global competition influences market realities daily: business, environmental and legislative concerns must be continually balanced.

Rapid growth, changing technology, as well as environmental and economic demands for science-based sustainable practices, place the horticulture industry on a steep learning curve. At the same time, the value of economic and natural resources entrusted to the industry is becoming more widely recognized by both urban and rural communities. The Landscape Pavilion Facility Expansion will build upon the education solution that Olds College provides and helps industry respond to the challenges they face.

### Partnered with Strategic Industry Advisors

- Alberta Golf Superintendents Association
- Canadian Nursery Landscape Association
- Landscape Alberta Nursery Trades Association
- Canadian Golf Superintendents Association
- International Society of Arboriculture  
*Prairie Chapter*

## The Centre for the Horticulture Industry Offers Unique Solutions

- The prairie's nationally accredited institution for horticulture training and testing for the Certified Horticulture Technician (CHT), Certified Landscape Designer (CLD) and Certified Landscape Professional (CLP) certification programs (currently under review).
- Increased enrolment capacity at the Apprenticeship, Diploma and Bachelor of Applied Science levels with a projected 35 full-load equivalencies.
- Expanded curriculum and specialized indoor laboratory to provide safety training for all related industry sectors.
- Expanded curriculum and specialized indoor laboratory to enhance technical and rescue training for the arboriculture sector.
- Increased hands-on training for landscape construction (e.g. water feature construction and repair).
- Increased specialty construction training for the golf industry (e.g. golf green construction and renovation).
- Incorporated program structure and learning opportunities that develops the learner's ability to work in teams and solve problems.
- Improved student capacity to employ land use and environmental planning principles and technology in the selection of plant material, design, construction, maintenance and management practices focused on sustainable production, recreational and ornamental systems.
- Redesign the Bachelor of Applied Science - Golf Course Management curriculum to provide sector-specific business management training.
- Increased national and international work experience opportunities (e.g. Co-op, internship, directed field study).
- Provides an expanded home for industry certification testing, skill competitions, field days, demonstration days and other networking activities.
- Provides facilities, technical training and business development support to the Horticulture Industry.

Olds College will develop the Centre for the Horticulture Industry to increase its capacity to provide safety, technical and business management training to the horticulture industry and the gardening public, using a wide range of delivery methods. The Landscape Pavilion Facility Expansion will support applied research to provide learners with a working knowledge of the value and practice of applied research to solve industry problems.

Olds College has been partnered with the industry since the horticulture program began in 1963. The College strives to align its programs with industry needs, diversification and specialization. With the completion of the Centre for the Horticulture Industry, Olds College will be uniquely positioned as a national-class education and business resource centre for the horticulture industry.

## Financial Impact

### Landscape Pavilion Facility Expansion

Landscape Pavilion	\$ 652,500	
Pavilion Shop Classrooms	\$ 640,000	
Connecting Link	\$ 200,000	
Equipment	\$ 780,000	
Contingency	\$ 70,000	
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 2,342,500</b>

For more information about this 2009 Capital Vision Campaign Project, please contact:

Phone: 403.507.7720

Toll Free: 1.800.661.6537

[www.oldscollege.ca](http://www.oldscollege.ca)