



**OLDS COLLEGE**  
OF AGRICULTURE & TECHNOLOGY

Break new ground.



*It's Your Turn to Transform the Future of:*

**The School of Trades & Skills**  
at Olds College of Agriculture & Technology





**Olds College of Agriculture & Technology is dedicated to empowering the next generation of leaders and innovators in agriculture and technology.**

Through world-class education, leading-edge research and strategic investments in our campus – including the upcoming renovation of the W.J. Elliott Building – we are ensuring our students have the skills and knowledge to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

The Government of Alberta announced \$63 million in capital funding to Olds College for the renovation and expansion of the W.J. Elliott Building. This investment is a significant step towards enhancing student spaces and supporting the growing demand for skilled trades education in Alberta.

We need your support to help us continue to build a brighter future.



# Breaking New Ground Innovative Education in the Agricultural Sector

For over a century, Olds College of Agriculture & Technology has been a leader in hands-on, education. Students from across Canada and around the globe choose Olds College for its practical, industry-relevant training with leading-edge technology and research.

As one of Canada's Top 5 Research Colleges, Olds College offers industry-driven programs in:

- agriculture & agriculture technology
- horticulture & food production
- land & environmental management
- animal health & equine studies
- business & trades

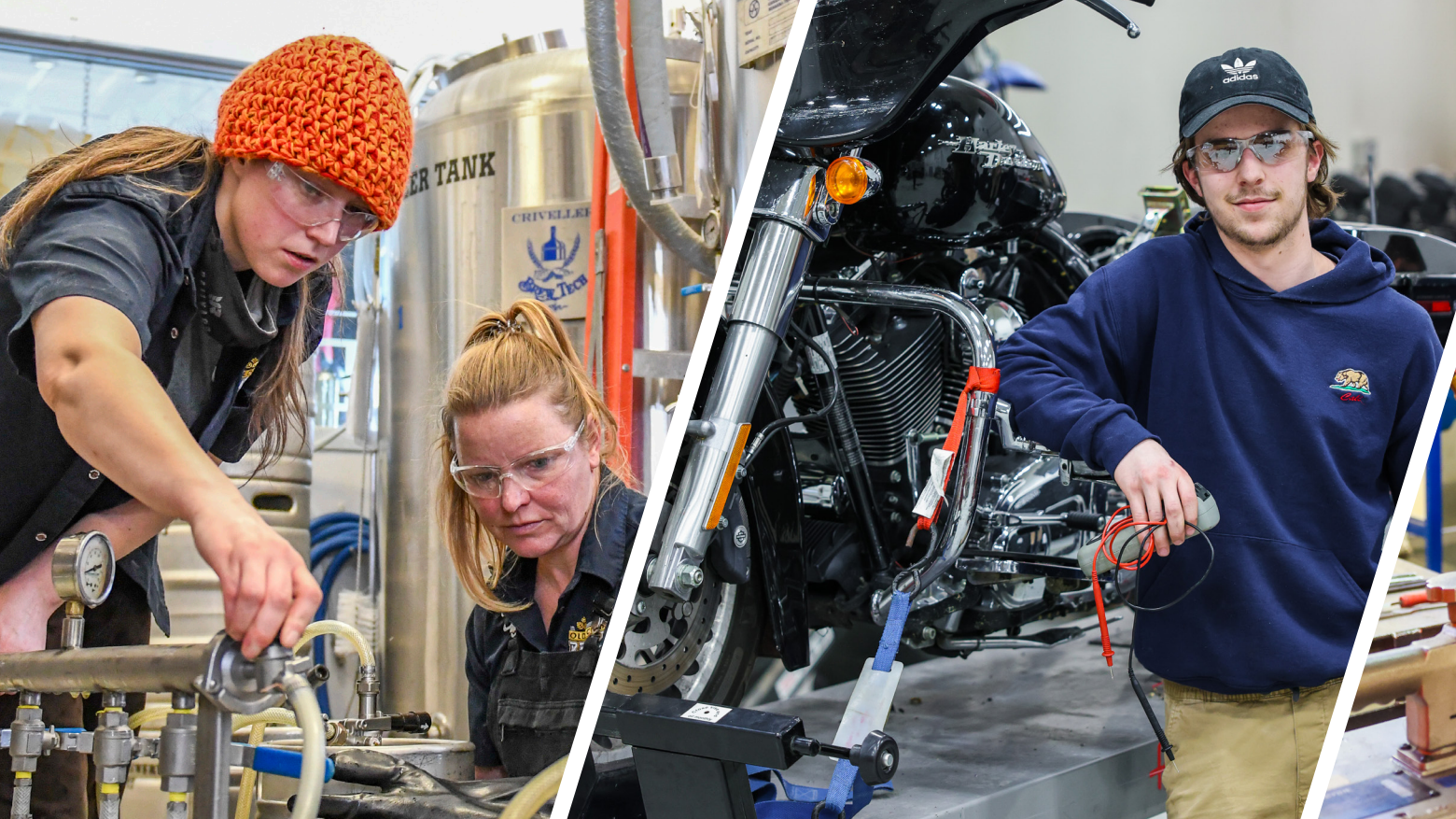
Our focus on real-world learning opportunities and apprenticeships ensures students are well-prepared for their chosen careers.

We are committed to providing our students with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in their chosen fields. Through collaborations with industry experts, our students receive leading-edge education from experienced instructors and gain valuable hands-on experience.

*With our growing student enrolment, we are committed to continuously providing exceptional work-integrated learning that provides our students with the updated skills and knowledge needed to step into the ever-changing agricultural and technological sectors with confidence.*

Since 1913, Olds College has been a driving force in agricultural education and innovation. As Canada's Smart Agriculture College, we are dedicated to transforming agriculture for a better world through education, research and community engagement.





## Trades & Skills **AT OUR CORE**

The School of Trades & Skills at Olds College is dedicated to the next generation of skilled trades professionals with students ranging from 13 to 73 years old. By working with industry leaders and using leading-edge technology, we deliver an unparalleled educational experience that launches our graduates into successful careers in the trades.

### **A Pathway to Success, Every Step of the Way**

Our commitment to student success begins early. Our “Try a Trade” initiative introduces grade eight students to the excitement of working with tools and machinery. For high school students, our dual credit program provides a head start on credentials and a chance to explore career options. We also offer comprehensive industry training programs that empower tradespeople to continuously refine their skills.

Upon successful completion of a dual credit program, students aspiring to further their skills in the trades are eligible for pre-employment apprenticeship programs which progress into our certificate, diploma or apprenticeship training programs. This accelerated pathway sets them up for rewarding careers as skilled journeypersons.

### **Shaping the Future of Skilled Trades**

#### **Try a Trade**

Igniting a passion for hands-on learning in grade eight students.

#### **Dual Credit**

Providing high school students a head start on post-secondary credentials.

#### **Industry Training**

Empowering tradespeople to continuously refine their skills.





## Training for High-Demand Careers

We offer a diverse range of programs designed to meet the evolving needs of the workforce and equip students with the skills to excel in a variety of high-demand careers. From maintaining and operating heavy equipment in Alberta's agriculture sector to mastering the art of horseshoeing and hoof care, our comprehensive training prepares students for rewarding roles in manufacturing, construction, hospitality, tourism and beyond. Graduates gain theoretical knowledge along with hands-on experience gained through real-world training to seamlessly transition into fulfilling careers.

### Certificates & Diplomas:

- Agricultural & Heavy Equipment Certificate & Diploma
- Agriculture Sales & Customer Support Certificate
- Craft Beverage & Brewery Operations Diploma
- Farrier Science Certificate
- Heavy Equipment Operator Certificate
- Hospitality & Tourism Certificate
- Hospitality & Tourism Management Diploma
- Hospitality & Tourism Management Post-Diploma Certificate

### Apprenticeship Programs:

- Agricultural Equipment Technician Apprenticeship
- Heavy Equipment Technician Apprenticeship
- Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship
- Welder Apprenticeship

### Pre-Employment Certificates:

- Pre-Employment Heavy Equipment Technician
- Pre-Employment Motorcycle Mechanic
- Pre-Employment Welder

### Industry Training:

- Case New Holland Technician
- John Deere Technician



# Industry Insights: **INCREASED DEMAND FOR SKILLED LABOUR**

There is an increasing demand for skilled labour and tradespeople across various industries – specifically agriculture and agricultural manufacturing. Data gathered by the *2023 Talent & Technology Survey Results by Agricultural Manufacturers of Canada (AMC)* provided insights into current industry issues.



Agricultural  
Manufacturers  
of Canada

The member survey highlighted major barriers to adopting new technology and automation including "shortages of skilled labour" and "tech staff", indicating an urgent need for well-trained professionals. Other key findings from the survey included:

- 60% of members increased investment in technology or equipment to increase efficiency and capacity in operations.
- 41% said there was a shortage of skilled labour needed to implement/operate the technology.
- 38% identified their largest constraint as being employee numbers.
- 66% of businesses say they will continue to increase hiring.
- The top six in-demand skills in the next three to five years are: skilled trades, welding, engineering, technical skills (robotics), soft skills and robot programming.

## **Today's Agriculture Equipment & Services**

The agricultural industry is transforming with modern farms and ranches investing millions in advanced equipment and technology. This shift, recognized in Alberta's Budget 2024 as a key driver of economic growth, necessitates a skilled workforce proficient in both traditional practices and sophisticated machinery.

At Olds College, our programs and training ensures students are job-ready and capable of supporting technological advancements. By investing in our students, we invest in the future of Alberta's agricultural industry, aligning with Budget 2024's focus on addressing the skilled labour shortage and supporting a thriving agricultural sector.

Our building expansion will allow us to answer the labour shortage with a higher volume of graduates exiting our programs every year with the skills and knowledge needed for the technological changes happening in the industry.







Graduates from Olds  
College Trades programs  
have a job placement  
rate of

**95%.**



# Olds College Receives \$63 Million for **TRADES BUILDING REVITALIZED RENOVATIONS**

The Government of Alberta announced \$63 million in capital funding in February 2024 to Olds College of Agriculture & Technology for the renovation and expansion of the W.J. Elliott Building. This investment is a significant step towards enhancing student spaces and supporting the growing demand for skilled trades education in Alberta.

*Renovations to the W.J. Elliott building will modernize infrastructure to strengthen apprenticeship and trades training. The upgraded facilities will allow Olds College to further elevate its student experience and industry partnerships, and add qualified apprentices into Alberta's skilled trades workforce.*

The \$63 million investment represents a substantial 90 per cent of the requested funding. The capital infusion will be phased over three years, with \$13 million slated for this year and \$25 million in each of the subsequent two years. This investment mirrors the government's recent commitment to augment apprenticeship seats by 3,200.

This capital funding aligns with the broader vision of Budget 2024, focusing on strengthening education and supporting job creation in Alberta. By investing in the renovation of the W.J. Elliott Building, Olds College is enhancing its facilities, building an enriched learning environment and creating more opportunities for students to excel in the skilled trades sector.

Planning for the project is underway with construction anticipated to begin in 2025.

**It's your turn. Help build the future for trades and skills today!**







Your support  
invests into the  
future of Alberta's  
agricultural industry  
and beyond.



# BUILDING OVERVIEW

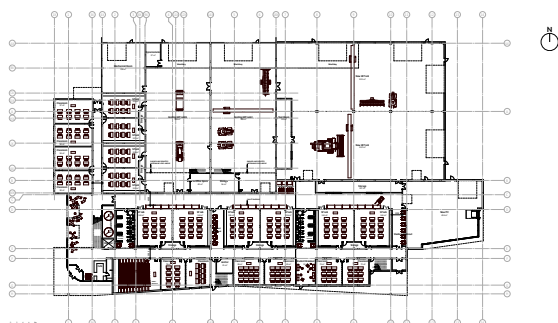
## The School of Trades & Skills

The School of Trades & Skills building is a cornerstone project providing more room for students and more room to learn.



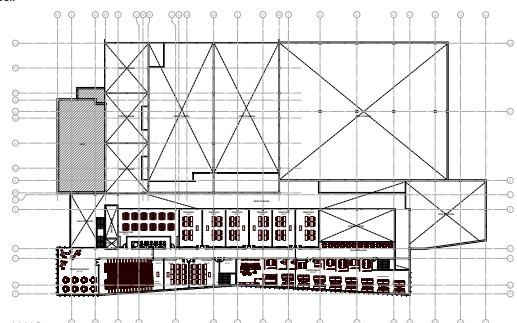
Floor Plan

MAIN FLOOR



Floor Plan

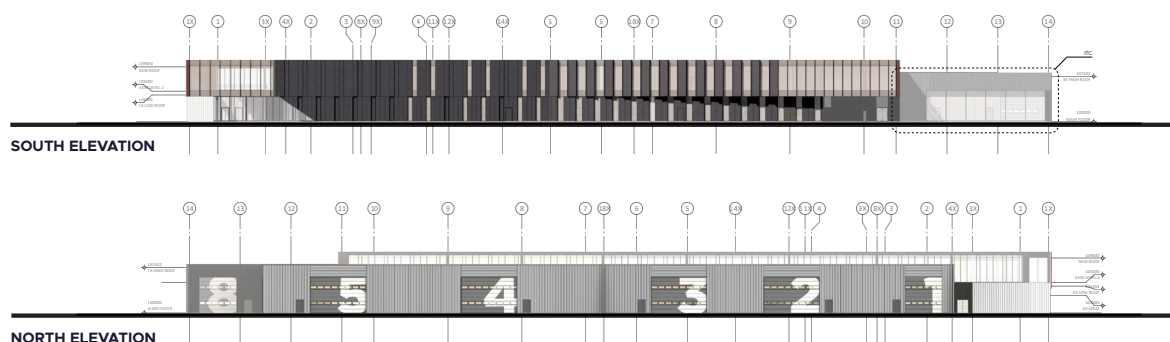
SECOND FLOOR





Today's agriculture equipment and services represent multi-million dollar investments on farms and ranches; investments with the potential to support food security and the environment. Driven as much by data as horsepower, a unique tradesperson is required to manage and service this complex technology.

A renovated, revitalized building would reduce our carbon footprint and use and exhibit alternate energy systems. These systems would not only function to maintain the building, but provide real-world introduction and supplemental technology cross-training for students in the agricultural field of smart farming.





# INTERIOR CONCEPTS

## Proposed Interior Atrium

New facilities would incorporate lifting equipment such as overhead cranes, and vehicle lifts equipped with highway tractor alignment systems and wheel dynamometers.

The design of labs and classrooms accommodate reconfigurable layouts to suit a variety of teaching and learning styles. Flexible electrical infrastructure will accommodate changing technology or classroom programming. Corridors have been sized to accommodate student gathering as well as the transportation of learning equipment and machinery.

The layout between equipment storage, labs and classrooms has been remodeled to increase efficiency of material transport and improve accessibility for students.

Plans would also include additional room for collaborative student and staff spaces which would be beneficial for newly developed micro-credentials and up-skill training. Additionally, these spaces would accommodate for improved accessibility and inclusivity.

*Note: Designs are for conceptual purposes only and will change in development.*









# LET'S BREAK NEW GROUND

Join us and support the future of skilled trades education in Alberta. Your contribution will help us raise the remainder of necessary funds needed to support the growing demand for skilled trades education in Alberta.

There are many opportunities to recognize your support in the building – so let's talk about how you can make a difference.



## \$5 million & up

Recognition may include the naming of the new building in addition to other opportunities.



## \$2.5 million & up

Recognition may include the naming of high-impact internal spaces in addition to other opportunities.



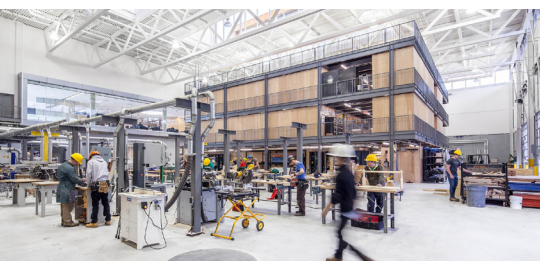
## \$500,000 & up

Recognition may include the naming of internal spaces in addition to other opportunities.



## \$250,000 & up

Recognition may include the naming of internal spaces or equipment in addition to other opportunities.




## \$50,000 & up

Recognition may include the naming of equipment, student engagement experiences, and further negotiated opportunities that provide benefit to both the students and partner.

*Note: Gifts can be split into multi-year payments and all naming opportunities must receive approval from the Board of Governors.*





*“Support from our industry partners gives us the ability to deliver the level of education that we do here at Olds College.*

*This building expansion will result in more highly skilled tradespeople entering the workforce every year.”*

**- Dennis Beaudoin**  
Dean, School of Trades & Skills

**You can invest in the future of agricultural talent, research and technological innovation with global impact.**

***Let's talk about the opportunities for impactful giving.***

Please contact:

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### **Land Acknowledgement**

Olds College of Agriculture & Technology is located in the traditional territories of the Niitsitapi (Blackfoot) and the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Siksika, the Piikani, the Kainai, the Tsuut'ina and the Stoney Nakoda First Nations. The area is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, District 3.