

notebook²⁰¹⁷

RED DEER COLLEGE ALUMNI MAGAZINE

Time, Talent & Treasures

Inspiring stories of how
RDC alumni give back to
their communities

50 YEAR STORY

Another milestone
to celebrate



PAVING THE
FUTURE AT RDC

EVENTS REVIEW
& PREVIEW

ATHLETICS
SEASON RECAP

Ryan Smith at
his Nexus Energy
Technologies shop

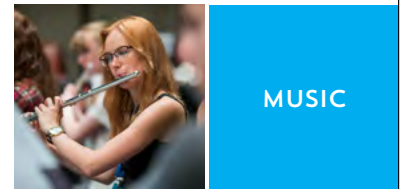


SUMMER CAMPS AT RDC

Explore the possibilities!

403.357.3663

rdc.ab.ca/summercamps



MUSIC



SCIENCE



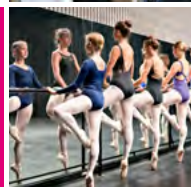
SPORTS



COOKING



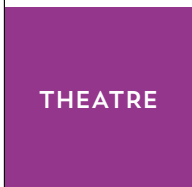
VISUAL
ARTS



DANCE



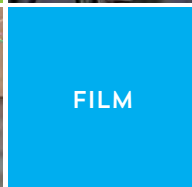
TRADES



THEATRE



FILM



GAME
DESIGN



ANIMATION



School of
Continuing Education



notebook²⁰¹⁷

Publisher

RDC Marketing & Communications

Executive Editor

Dean Turnquist

Associate Editor

Bre Fitzpatrick

Research & Writing

Lani Lupul
Dean Turnquist

Graphic Design

Heidi Langridge

Printing

Warwick Printing

Photography

Photek,
Lani Lupul,
Stop Action
Photography

Publication Mail
Agreement 40010033
Notebook, RDC
Alumni © Red Deer
College 2017

Return undeliverable
Canadian addresses
to:
Red Deer College
100 College Blvd
Box 5005
Red Deer AB T4N 5H5

Editorial comments
or ideas? Seeking
permission to reprint?
Contact the
Executive Editor at:
403.357.3681
or email:
alumni@rdc.ab.ca

RDC alumni within
this publication are
identified by their
year of graduation
or their last year of
attendance at RDC.

Alumni Features

13 A START-UP SUCCESS

Ryan Smith on how Nexus Energy Technologies has risen to number two in the global market

19 INVESTING IN GENERATIONS

John Rathwell was recently named one of the Top 50 Advisors in Canada by Wealth Professional magazine

23 WORTH THE RISK

Sharilee Tangjerd Fossum never had small-town Saskatchewan on her radar; but now she praises her roots and those who know her best

29 OF MUSIC AND BUILDING FENCES

JUNO award-winner Clayton Bellamy thanks his Alberta prairie inspiration that started it all

35 LEAVE IT TO BRYAN

Bryan Armstrong is a journeyman carpenter, past mortgage agent, and now sea-can homebuilder



Community

27 RDC & THE GAMES

The countdown is on for the 2019 Canada Winter Games! Find out what this means for you and RDC



From RDC

7 EVENT REVIEW & PREVIEW

Don't miss out on the many events happening at RDC

15 A NEW HOME FOR THE HEART OF RDC

A wide array of new and innovative resources and programs will soon be available to the community

36 RDC'S SCHOOLS

Catch up on what's been happening in RDC's seven Schools



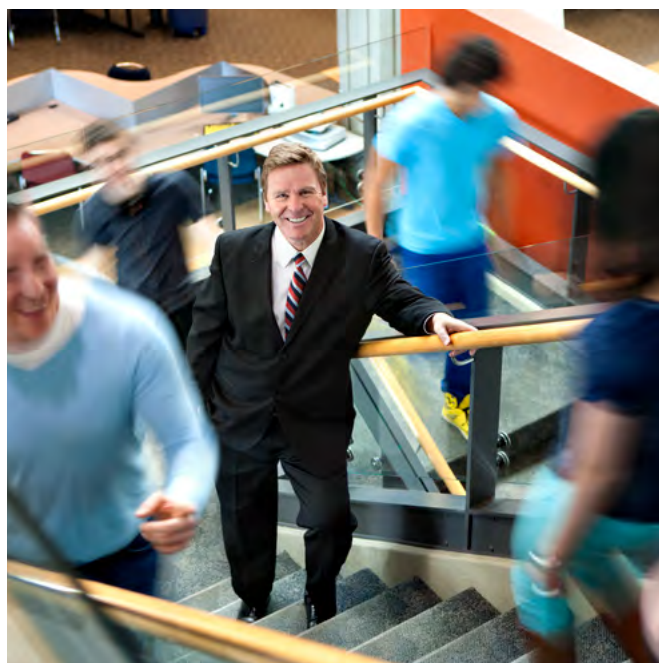
Donor Stories

10 PAVING THEIR FUTURE

Cory and Abby Kaun leave a paving stone legacy for their two children

32 YOUR TIME, TREASURE, OR TALENTS

Sigmund Brouwer and Rosaline Beekhan reflect on how and why they give to their community



JOEL WARD

From the RDC President & CEO

WITH OUR NATION celebrating a milestone this year of our 150th birthday, it allows me time to reflect on what we have accomplished in our 50+ year history, and of the milestones yet to come. And June is a special time of year at Red Deer College. A time for many of us to reflect on our journey of where we have come from, and now, where we might go! It is time when we celebrate the biggest milestone of our educational lives, something we strive towards every day here on campus and a time when we get to celebrate the many successes of our learners.

Celebrating any graduating class is a milestone of which we are very proud, and over all those years, Red Deer College has provided graduates with the tools they need to be successful in their chosen fields. And, for more than 50 years, Red Deer College has produced graduates who are 'game-changers' and leaders who are ready to take on the world.

Red Deer College has continued to evolve over the years and our focus of that evolution is always on doing what is best for our learners and what benefits our community.

Red Deer College is synonymous with central Alberta, and our staff, students, faculty and alumni continue to play a key role in our community, working to shape the social fabric while meeting the demands of what tomorrow's learners will need to be

successful leaders. And our role at Red Deer College remains, as the leading post-secondary provider of choice for central Albertans. So much of who we are and what we represent will be on display in 2019 when we welcome the world to central Alberta! The Canada Winter Games are sure to elevate our city and our campus and we will be ready. All you have to do is look around to see the evolution of our growing campus as we prepare for 2019 and beyond.

A key to that evolution and growth is the move towards becoming a Polytechnic University. Through the strong advocacy of our community partners and government, who understand the opportunities that will accompany achieving degree granting status and all that will provide our region, moves us closer to our goal than we have ever been. As we move closer to that vision, we continue to do what makes us leaders in our field. We continue to look for sustainable ways to grow our business in ways that will benefit everyone in the region. We continue to be an economic force for the region and further enhance our ability to draw and retain the best and brightest to central Alberta.

So, as we celebrate the accomplishments of this year's graduating class, a group that will build on the legacy of alumni before them, we celebrate our past and look forward to the possibilities our future holds.



SCOTT HUCAL

From the RDC Alumni Association Chair

AS WE REVIEW the past year, we see it with mixed results. We have seen hope grow and new opportunities present themselves.

Over the last several years, the Alumni Board has been doing some strategic work about what our role is and how we want to operate in that. A very clear direction has emerged for us in the 2016/2017 year as we reflected on the Students' Association donation of \$500,000 to the Gary W. Harris Canada Games Centre/Centre des Jeux du Canada Gary W. Harris. This generous addition to the campaign had us questioning what we could do. Maybe we wouldn't be able to do this with the resources we have now, but what would we want to contribute in future years?

The idea moved into action quickly when Patrick Galesloot suggested we consider selling the paving stones that lead up to the walkway and an alumni initiative was born. From the history of the Bricklayer magazine to paving the way for the future, the idea of our alumni and community being able to move this facility forward was one that we could get behind.

It may have been many years since you were last here, but we ask that you consider if Paving Our Future is an opportunity for you to engage with your Alumni Association and join the over 60,000 alumni of RDC since 1964. You can cement your legacy and know that you have had a role as we continue to pave the way for the future through our businesses, talents and lives.

Are you reading
this at someone
else's house or place
of business and
wondering,

***Why didn't I get
a copy?***



There is so much happening at RDC.
Don't miss out!

To receive a printed or electronic copy of
Notebook, connect with us and share your
contact information to ensure you don't
miss future editions.

**rdc.ab.ca/alumni
alumni@rdc.ab.ca
403.342.3175**

Meet Your Alumni Association

In 1988, a group of graduates created the Red Deer College Alumni Association, with the goal to assist students and help them stay connected with the College.

Scott Hucal – Chair

Amanda Hadland – Vice Chair

Bre Fitzpatrick – Executive Director,
Alumni Development Coordinator

Amanda Blair – Secretary, Treasurer

Patrick Galesloot – Director

Michelle Colby – Director

Luke Spicer – Director

Barb Dixon – Director

Ben Fleury – Director, SARDC Rep

Vacant – Director, FARDC Rep

Joel Ward – President & CEO, ex officio

Michael Donlevy – Vice President,
Enterprise & Community Relations,
ex officio

Janice Wing – Director of Community
Relations, ex officio

Distinguished Alumnus Award

The Distinguished Alumnus Award is presented annually to an alumnus who has distinguished him or herself in one or more of the following areas: personal achievement, academic achievement or public service

Through a process of nomination by local community members, the Alumni Association Board provides the applications to a subcommittee that ensures all applications are vetted properly and the award is bestowed on the most deserving candidate.

If you know a deserving RDC Alumnus and would like to nominate them for this prestigious award, please contact RDC Alumni Relations by calling 403.342.3175

Previous Award Winners (starting in 1997)

Michael Dawe	Tim Gitzel
Diana Anderson	Bryan Wilson
Dr. Janice Cosgrove-Dunn	Lt. Col. Jay Janzen
Dr. Rebecca Luce-Kapler	Dr. Duane Smethurst
Dr. Sandy Murray	Peter Weddell
Keith Hansen	Dr. Janet Welch
Guy Pelletier	Dr. Lynne Paradis
Doug Sandall	Randy Harper
Tony Kulbisky	Sheila Musgrove
Melody Davidson	Andrew Kooman and Katherine McKenzie
	Rod Kennedy

Alumni Legacy Award

First established in 2004, the Alumni Legacy Award is a posthumous award given to recognize an individual alumnus' contribution to the community. The award honours the spirit and commitment to Red Deer and central Alberta exemplified by the first honouree, Phil Rauch.

The Alumni Association will bestow a \$750 award to a deserving student who is making a meaningful contribution of time, effort and leadership that makes our communities special places for our citizens.

For more information on this award and for nominating a deserving candidate, please contact RDC Alumni Relations by calling 403.342.3175.

Previous Honorees

Phil Rauch
Tim Guilbault
Marlin Styner
Joe Bower



Events In Review | 2016/2017

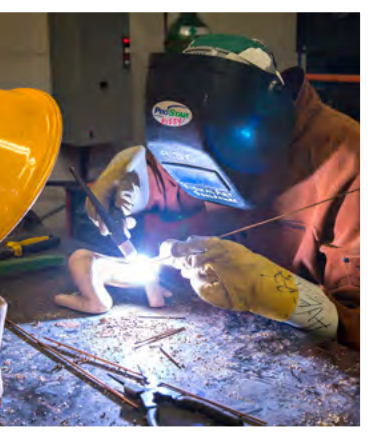
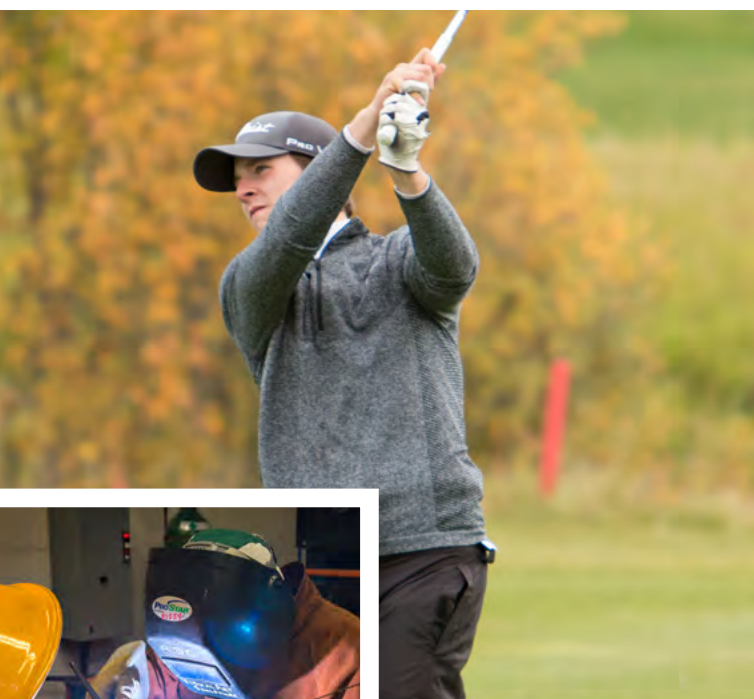
Our campus is kept busy throughout the year with a number of special events in which alumni, sponsors and community members can enjoy themselves while supporting various initiatives around the College. Thank you to those who come out in support of our learners each year. Stay posted throughout the year by visiting rdc.ab.ca/events.

Summer Art Series | **Fine Wine & Food Tasting** | **Athletics Scholarship Breakfast featuring John Herdman Perspectives featuring Dr. Gabor Mate** | **Athletics Awards** | **RDC Golf Classic**
Mini Maker Faire | **Welcomed 50th Year Class at Community Awards** | **53rd Graduating Class at Convocation**

Events In Preview 2017/2018

The coming year will be filled with more great events, activities and other exciting announcements as we get closer to preparation for the 2019 Canada Winter Games.

To keep up-to-date on the latest events or to get involved, follow us at rdc.ab.ca/events. These are only some of the events to take place in the coming year!



Athletics Season

September 2017 – March 2018

Join the excitement and cheer on the RDC Kings and Queens as they defend their Royal Legacy. Tickets and information at rdcathletics.ca

Shaping Our Future Invitational Golf Event

September 18, 2017

RDC will host an invitational Golf event in support of fundraising for the Shaping Our Future initiative.

Creative Arts Season

September 2017 – April 2018

Featuring Theatre, Music, Film and Visual Arts events, don't miss the opportunity to support our students as they follow their passion! For a peek at the upcoming season, visit rdc.ab.ca/showtime

Perspectives: Canada in the World

Spring 2018

With such renowned past speakers as Margaret Atwood, Ezra Levant, Dr. Gabor Maté and Amanda Lindhout, this prestigious public lecture series is sure to spark your intellectual curiosity. Keep an eye on **rdc.ab.ca/perspectives** for our next speaker announcement.

Open House

November 4, 2017 | 9:30am - 1:30pm

RDC opens its doors to hundreds of prospective students. With more than 75 program and service department booths, demonstrations and interactive exhibits, RDC's main campus will be a flurry of activity. Learn more at **rdc.ab.ca/openhouse**



Shaping Our Future

Keep up-to-date on the latest changes and happenings at the Gary W. Harris Canada Games Centre/Centre des Jeux du Canada Gary W. Harris. Visit **rdc.ab.ca/thecentre**

Fine Wine & Food Tasting

In April 2018, RDC's Alumni Association will again host the Fine Wine & Food Tasting event, welcoming guests to an evening of teaching pairings, highlighting education and providing networking opportunities. Visit **rdc.ab.ca/winetasting**



Faculty & Staff Farewells

Each year, we say goodbye to those dedicated and committed people who move on to retirement or to new career opportunities. In saying goodbye, we say thank-you!

RDC employs more than 1,400 faculty and staff. Each person helps ensure RDC offers a dynamic and memorable educational experience, and we would like to say thanks to those who retired this past year:

Dr. Bill Stuebing

Sociology Instructor,
44 Years of Service

Ida Murray

Program Assistant,
33 Years of Service

Douglas Girvan

Applied Science Instructor,
31 Years of Service

William Marchuk

Natural Science Instructor,
31 Years of Service

Ian LeMaistre

Theatre Instructor,
31 Years of Service

Larry Reese

Motion Picture Arts Instructor,
29 Years of Service

Pat Ellsworth

Biology Lab Technologist,
27 Years of Service

Darlene Johnson

Planning & Policy Specialist,
21 Years of Service

Steve Sherman

Music Instructor,
20 Years of Service

Gregg Irvine

Electrician Instructor,
19 Years of Service

Brian Berge

Plumbing Instructor,
17 Years of Service

Linda Sawula

Administration Coordinator,
16 Years of Service

Dr. Marian George

Nursing Instructor,
14 Years of Service

Lynda Adams

Theatre Instructor,
14 Years of Service

Robert Gilgan

Alumni Development
Coordinator,
4 Years of Service



*From top to bottom:
Dr. Bill Stuebing, Lynda Adams,
and Larry Reese.*

Behind the Scenes



*After 31 years of working with students in the technical theatre program, **Ian LeMaistre** will retire his full-time post with a heart full of fond campus memories.*

RDC WAS FORTUNATE to hook him after he spent years teaching all over the country, from Nova Scotia to Newfoundland, Quebec to British Columbia. The Toronto-born teacher made Alberta home in 1986 when the Arts Centre, and the Theatre Arts program, opened.

Those who work in the industry know it's not easy, but worth it, and it often breeds the most passionate of people; ones who must continue to grow with the ever-changing landscape of the arts. Ian is no exception.

"What we're doing as teachers is preparing people to get in to the workforce, and continue to learn as they work. I'm a big fan of lifelong learning, growth and education. One thing I liked most about my job was when I was able to work with a student outside of school. Over the years my students have become, in many ways, my teachers."

Some of his fondest memories include performing with the Symphonic Winds on main stage, and producing *Grapes of Wrath* with director, Larry Reese.

"It was a show that was somewhat political. We produced it as a classic of theatre, but also because our local MLA had presented a petition to the legislative assembly to have that book removed from the libraries in the province. So that was kind of interesting!" shares Ian. "It was a fabulous team and collection of people who worked on that. We had a local band that developed the music and created a fabulous set design and production team. That was a long time ago and it was still the show that had the most hootspa! Larry Reese was a fabulous director and a truly great artist to work with on many levels."

This summer, Ian will start a part-time position with the Canmore Folk Festival, but hopes to stay connected with the program and RDC as he continues to make Red Deer his home.

"The College has been great to me; they've given me lots of opportunity to do interesting things and work with students and create many great pieces of art."



A Start-Up Success

With uncompromised quality in an industry that can't afford to make mistakes, it's no wonder Nexus Energy Technologies has risen to number two in the global market.

NEXUS ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES was born out of an opportunity seized by **Ryan Smith** (Bachelor of Science in Engineering, 1996), and his two friends Stephen McCall and Scott Wilson. With children on the way for two of the three partners, taking a business risk was a leap, but it's paid off. Now, they employ 50 people across Canada, and six in their Houston, Texas, location.

"We're one of the few out there that offer a complete line of sales, service, and rentals. All of our business segments are designed around customer service," shares Ryan, President of Nexus Energy Technologies. "If they require equipment to be re-certified, we can give them a rental so they can keep going on their jobs. Because we can control the design and manufacturing, we can be responsive to the customer's needs, and any quick turn-around time they need we can react to."

Between the three partners, they covered the needs of engineering, machine shop manufacturing and technology – a perfect trio for a start-up business. Though he's in the Presidential role now and moving away from engineering manager, Ryan applauds the team they have on board to take them in to the future.

"We have a fantastic team here. But because it's in my blood, and this company is sort of my baby, I will always be a part of product development, but moving away from the day to day."

With a large part of his work taking him to the US, the Middle East, Australia, Russia and throughout Europe, Ryan is thankful for the opportunities he has to develop new clients. The entrepreneurial apple doesn't fall far from the tree – with both of his parents running small businesses when he was a boy.

"My interests were always tinkering with things and mechanical systems. My dad was a car guy, so there was always a car or engine torn apart in the garage."

RDC was a natural choice and an easier transition for a person born and raised in central Alberta. As a stepping-stone, he found

it easier to approach university once he had first spent a year learning at RDC. After six years of working as a mechanical engineer, Ryan and his two friends creatively named their new company Nexus Energy Technologies, which means "the master link." What soon followed was the 2008 economic downturn that no one predicted. Though the timing was a challenge, they found a way to use it to their advantage.

"We had some really critical support from key clients that got us through those hard times. By taking advantage of some of the downturn, it gave us the time to get some engineering done on products. So when things started to climb again, we were ready to release new prototypes we had designed and take advantage of the market when it came back."

Nexus provides everything from blowout preventers (BOP) to accessories that enable the service company to execute a safe well intervention operation. Coiled tubing has really taken off with the horizontal drilling techniques used in the shale formation completions.

"The industry is doing things now that were unheard of 10 years ago. We must ensure that we are keeping up and anticipating the needs of the industry in the next 10 years."

Though the coil tubing industry is a relatively small one, Nexus Energy Technologies expanded their offices to Houston three years ago to meet the demand coming from the south.

"The Houston base has really opened up opportunities for us in the USA, and it now generates the majority of our sales for the company. We see continued growth for that region, and we feel we are gaining market share as well."

Nominated for business awards in the oil and gas industry, Ryan and his business partners are thankful for the growth Nexus has experienced in such a short time, adding, "It's been quite a ride!"



A Night of Fine Wine & Food Tasting

A hint of oak, a bold flavor that brings out the dry fruitiness. These are just some of things you may have heard when you attended Red Deer College Alumni Association's 13th Annual Fine Wine & Food Tasting event on April 20th, presented by True-Line Builders.

With over 30 food, wine, beer and spirits vendors, guests were able to indulge in numerous types of wine and mix and match with food to tempt almost any palate! To kick start the evening, and new to the event this year, an exclusive VIP food pairing was offered for both wine and beer. The wine pairing was hosted by sommelier BJ Tumanut, owner of Chocolates by Bernard Callebaut Red Deer. BJ introduced guests to unique wine and food pairings and helped them to explore the tastes that intrigued their unique palates. Stephen Ross from Troubled Monk Brewery, our local beer enthusiast, offered his own take on food pairings that fit with various kinds of beer. Our VIP guests got a first-hand interaction on these unique offerings.

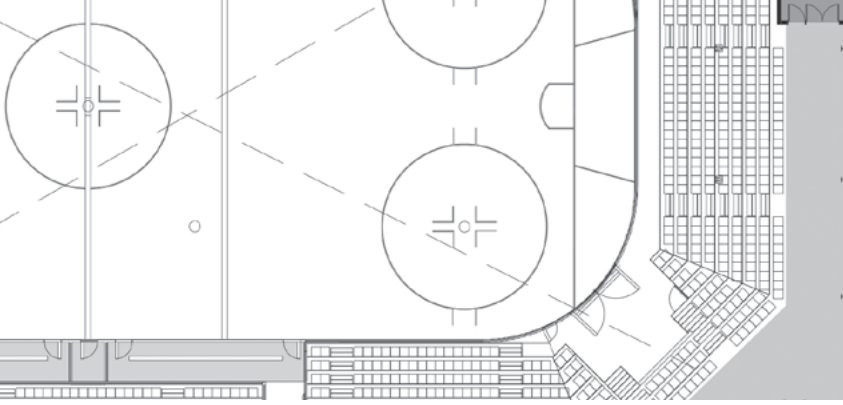
The rest of the evening kicked off at 7:00 pm in the Cenovus Learning Commons in the Four Centres Building. With over 30 vendors and 300 guests, this annual event once again proved to be a success and we look forward to seeing guests back on campus at other events and next year in April for the 14th Annual event!

To learn more about events and happenings at Red Deer College or the important role the RDC Alumni Association plays in student scholarship and support visit rdc.ab.ca/alumni.



Benefitting everyone from ages 2 to 92, a wide array of new and innovative resources, programs and spaces will soon be available to the community.

(continued)



Red Deer is a growing and vibrant community located in the heart of the province, and RDC sits at the centre of the city.

Not only is Red Deer College one of the first things you think of when you think of Red Deer, it truly is the heart of central Alberta.

As we continue to grow at record rates, the needs of our citizens in the region grow as well. To facilitate that, and to align with the city hosting the 2019 Canada Winter Games, Red Deer College is well invested in our Capital Campaign that is Shaping Our Future.

At the centre of this campaign is the Gary W. Harris Centre Canada Games Centre/ Centre des Jeux du Canada Gary W. Harris, located on the west edge of RDC's main campus.

There are many features that will meet the needs of our College, our city and our region as we continue to grow and evolve.

A NUMBER OF KEY FEATURES INCLUDE:

- Hockey rink with an Olympic-sized surface, convertible to NHL-size
- Competition squash courts
- High-Performance gymnasium
- Indoor running track
- Motion and dance studios
- Fitness and testing centre
- Space for performance training, teaching and learning
- Training and seminar rooms
- Athletic therapy labs

The Gary W. Harris Canada Games Centre will offer all things to all people. And our learners will benefit greatly from this new, innovative and world-class facility.

The majority of this facility's space will be dedicated to teaching and learning. Additionally, it will be accessible to the community, thereby providing greater access to health and wellness activities year-round for people of all ages.

The wide array of resources and programs that will be available to the community will benefit everyone from ages 2 to 92 and offer a space that is inclusive and multi-generational; promoting healthy lifestyle development for all ages.

The project is scheduled to open in the fall of 2018 with the Red Deer College Kings and Queens teams kicking off their seasons in this new facility. Then, in February 2019, RDC will welcome our region, the country and the world as a proud host venue for the 2019 Canada Winter Games.

MORE THAN 3,600 ATHLETES WILL CONVERGE ON RED DEER.

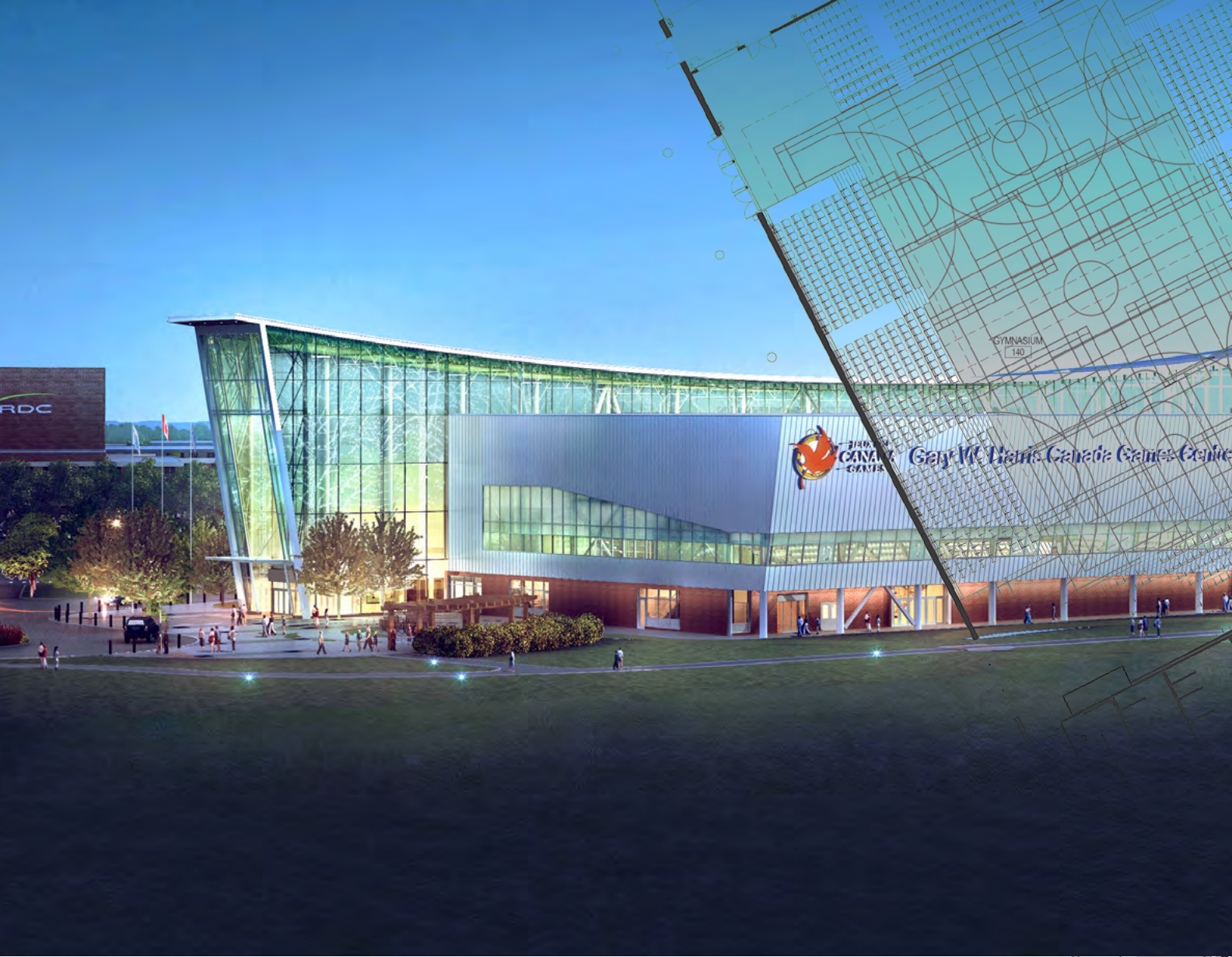
This is only a fraction of the visitors, spectators, coaches, parents, support staff and dignitaries who will come to Red Deer and enjoy the College to partake in the Games. What will endure beyond those 17 days in February will be a legacy that will benefit Red Deer College, the city, region and beyond for years to come.

The estimated cost to build this magnificent facility is \$88 million. Our role, at Red Deer College, is to raise \$30 million of that cost through the Shaping Our Future fundraising initiative.

WE ARE HALF WAY TO OUR GOAL.

Would you like to know how you can help and be a part of this legacy for Red Deer College and central Alberta? Provide a donation to RDC. Your contribution confirms your belief in the power of education to change lives and communities. Together, let's build a lasting legacy for central Albertans.

Donations are tax deductible. For more information visit our website at rdc.ab.ca/shapingourfuture



In Memory

RDC Alumni Relations wishes to honour the lives of our alumni and staff who passed away in 2016. We extend condolences to the families and friends of these cherished loved ones.

Joseph Bower
Jan. 5, Age 37

Parker Peters
Jan. 5, Age 27

Ione Currier
Jan. 6, Age 81

Rhonda Forth
Feb. 4, Age 56

Sheila Wells
Feb. 13, Age 55

Norma Blois
Mar. 14, Age 95

Dawson Wegner
Mar. 16, Age 23

Brian Minnings
Mar. 27, Age 60

Calvin Sheppard
Apr. 1, Age 67

Nadine Morrison
Apr. 3, Age 92

Carolyn Reum
Apr. 13, Age 59

Debra Couper
Apr. 18, Age 64

Wendy Hovland
May 8, Age 63

Wade Courtice
May 26, Age 29

Logan Humphreys
May 27, Age 21

Johanne Hermary
Jun. 15, Age 53

Carol Gaalaas
Jun. 19, Age 72

Connie Olatunde
June. 25, Age 58

Andrew Carter
Aug. 26, Age 65

Jane Bechthold
Sep. 2, Age 57

Caron Wall
Sep. 6, Age 46

Kenneth Mantei
Sep. 8, Age 53

Thomas O'Connor
Sep. 10, Age 63

Darlene Fuller
Sep. 16, Age 55

Judy McQuay
Oct. 5, Age 66

Beverly Benz
Oct. 7, Age 66

Scott MacSween
Oct. 13, Age 27

Kyle Strange
Oct. 21, Age 27

Viktor Grab
Oct. 22, Age 30

Glen Hoerle
Oct. 23, Age 39

Tina Marie Pfeiffer
Oct. 27, Age 50

James Martin
Nov. 5, Age 54

David Knapp
Nov. 26, Age 26

John Rempel
Nov. 27, Age 67

Karen Hayes
Dec. 9, Age 40

Michael Best
Dec. 14, Age 63

Margaret Matthews
Dec. 27, Age 93

Edgar Berry
Dec. 28, Age 86

Help us in

SHAPING OUR FUTURE

It's simple...
just text to give!

Text **FUTURE** to
45678 and donate
\$20 today.



FOUNDATION

Be heard.

Join the conversation.



facebook.com/reddeercollege

Joined November 2011
6,000+ likes



[@RedDeerCollege](https://twitter.com/RedDeerCollege)

Joined October 2009
6,200+ followers



[@RedDeerCollege](https://www.instagram.com/RedDeerCollege)

Joined February 2014
1,500+ followers





Generation Investing

*With more than 30 years of experience in the financial planning industry, and recently named one of the Top 50 Advisors in Canada by Wealth Professional magazine, **John Rathwell** (Business Administration, 1985) has helped hundreds of clients achieve and live their dreams.*

LINING THE TOP of any list or a class seems to be his modus vivendi, such as the day he was offered two jobs out of college, or became one of the first people at TD Bank to earn his mutual funds license. Adding to these achievements were the years at Investors Group when he was awarded recognition of being Top New Financial Planner, and Top Manager of the Year. John is now an independent financial planner at HollisWealth in Red Deer and has been recognized for having one of the top performing offices in Canada every year for the last three years. All of this adds up to very thankful and secure clients. His children have even followed in his footsteps.

“Our primary goal is to help people. We provide a holistic approach that is created and personalized to fit every person’s individual goals and situation. We run a family financial planning office. All three of my kids work here with me, and all three of them attended Red Deer College! It is great to work with and watch my kids interact with our client’s children, as they enjoy the stability of knowing who they will be working with in the future.”

With three and four generations of families they help take care of, John takes customer satisfaction very seriously. There’s a person, a family, a dream, behind each portfolio they manage. And, he advises, the best time to start is today.

“Start early and find a knowledgeable and trustworthy financial advisor,” shares John. “All the top athletes have coaches that help them improve. Ironically most people spend more time planning their vacations than they do their retirement. It gives me great satisfaction to help clients retire and then witness them having more money after being retired for 3+ years. This is due to investment performance and the planning strategies that were implemented.”

While John loves helping clients with their financial portfolio, he also enjoys being involved in the community through sponsorship of various events, such as this year’s Stettler and Three Hill’s car events.

“The success of our practice was created by attending Red Deer College. This first step was important as a base to what has driven our success today. In 2017, we are planning on becoming a Portfolio Manager, which is a very prominent designation. This will enhance our capabilities and elevate us above most other financial planners in Canada.”

As John continues to make client’s dreams come true, it looks like staying on top in his field will remain a part of his portfolio.



Cory & Abby Kaun with their two children in their Red Deer home.

A Family Legacy

By adding their names to the legacy walkway, Cory and Abby Kaun help pave the future at RDC and leave a legacy in stone for their two young children.

WITH THE 2019 Canada Winter Games quickly approaching, the construction of the Gary W. Harris Canada Games Centre/Centre des Jeux du Canada Gary W. Harris is well under way. Planning the future of Red Deer College means considering the legacy of our community and its members.

As a part of the Shaping Our Future Campaign, RDC is offering another way to get involved and support this legacy project. You can help pave the future at RDC and become a part of history by showing your support and community pride in a lasting and memorable way by adding your name to the legacy walkway at the Gary W. Harris Canada Games Centre/Centre des Jeux du Canada Gary W. Harris at Red Deer College.

When local business owner and community members, Cory and Abby Kaun (Larkaun Homes) heard of this opportunity, they were excited to deepen their relationship with RDC. Already an existing scholarship donor and sponsor of special events, Cory saw it as a way to leave a legacy not just for the business, but also for his family.

"I never aspired or thought I'd get a secondary education, but I got my journeyman at RDC several years ago," shares Cory. "The facility is just getting better and better. We have two young children, and we thought

it'd be pretty neat and special if, when they eventually attend RDC, we show them our names on the paving stones. It's great for our family, a small legacy. I thought it was a great idea!"

Each paving stone is 24 inches wide by 8 inches high, and provides a specific amount of character space for you to leave your own message. You can make a one-time donation for \$500 or you can spread payments over 12 months for just over \$40 per month.

As a scholarship supporter, Larkaun Homes focuses on those wanting to enter the trades, but who need the extra assistance to make it happen. He knows what it's like to work long hours during the day and then attend classes at night, and he wanted to make it easier for others to get a trade.

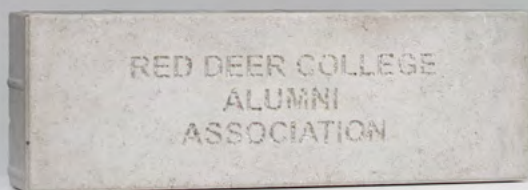
"We're not going anywhere, so in 40-50 years we're looking forward to seeing how we can improve individual and families' lives."

Donations for this special project are available until July 15, 2017.

Legacy thinking begins today. Join the Shaping our Future Campaign and consider adding your company or family name to the legacy walkway at the Gary W. Harris Canada Games Centre.



PAVING OUR FUTURE



Help pave the future at RDC and leave your legacy.

Show your community pride and with your charitable donation, receive an engraved Paving Stone at the *Gary W. Harris Canada Games Centre/Centre des Jeux du Canada Gary W. Harris Legacy Walkway*. Leave your legacy with your family name, business or to honour the memory of a loved one.

Personalize Your Paving Stone at
rdc.ab.ca/pavingourfuture



ALUMNI



Worth the Risk

Sharilee Tangjerd Fossum *never had small-town Saskatchewan on her radar; she was a girl with big city dreams. But throughout her career of multiple leadership positions, and raising a family who supports her every risk, it has her praising her roots and those who know her best.*

IT WAS A MOMENT that changed everything – right before her husband’s surgery, as she sat next to his hospital bed. At the same time that a life-threatening farm accident sent them to Regina emergency, Sharilee Tangjerd Fossum (Business Administration, 1979) got a call from a previous boss that opened up the next door, right in the middle of a crisis, right when they needed it.

In many ways, that’s how her life has been – from one risk, or adventure, to the next. As a born-and-raised central Albertan, Sharilee was all set to pursue her academic dream at the University of Alberta. Red Deer College didn’t have as many faculties or degrees at the time, so her intent was to go to the big city.

“My Dad pulled the plug on me and said I wasn’t ready to move away from home. That’s how I ended up at RDC,” shares Sharilee. “And it was the very best thing he could’ve done. I wasn’t ready and he knew that. RDC was the most amazing two years. I needed to grow up, and it was a great place to do that. *When you get here you understand* was so applicable, even back then.”

With a heritage of “working, remarkable, and resilient women”, getting an education was never a question. It was more a matter of what to take, than whether she would go.

“Most of my family was more service-oriented occupations, with not much exposure to business. But, I liked organizing things, and the order that came with accounting. Not that I was passionate about accounting! It (education) was never a push, it was more a process of elimination.”

After meeting her future husband, Lorne, in her first months at the University of Alberta, she knew she’d be Saskatchewan bound. It was the early 1980s and jobs were sparse, especially in smaller communities. She knew the variety she’d find would be with the local school board, hospital, or city hall.

“I remember going to the Dean at U of A and saying, ‘I’m moving to the middle of nowhere. What should I major in?’ He said it probably



With a heritage of “working, remarkable, and resilient women”, getting an education was never a question.



"Once you've had something really big to manage, you realize the other things are not so big. Your priorities get clearer."

didn't matter, as there were so few women in those communities with a commerce degree. I was worried about specializing in the wrong thing."

To Oungre, Saskatchewan they went, her husband's hometown – the very same community that her father grew up in. But it was still the middle of nowhere to her.

Sharilee landed a job an hour away at SouthEast Regional College, for several years, and then eventually commuted to Regina to work for IPSCO, a publicly traded steel mill. It wasn't long before they decided to pick up and move to the province's capital.

"At that point, it was an important junction in my career, and I ended up in the capital markets. IPSCO was building a mill in the United States, and I was in charge of investing the money."

What started as a \$60 million portfolio quickly grew to \$500 million. Once that campaign was complete, Sharilee moved on to work with Farm Credit for several years, where instead of investing the money, she was borrowing to fund farm loans across Canada. It was at the same time that she started her Master's in Business Administration.

"After all that craziness with our personal life for so long, we decided 'What are we teaching our kids about how a family is supposed to work?' So we packed up and moved back to the farm. It was hard to walk away from a great job, when I really loved it, but it was one of the best things we ever did."

When her husband's farm accident happened, they were at a crossroads, and it led them back to Alberta. They've been here ever since.

"Once you've had something really big to manage, you realize the other things are not so big. Your priorities get clearer."

After several opportunities setting up new crown corporations, and a role as CFO and

Acting CEO at Northlands, she has a blend of change management and leadership experience. Sharilee is now Chief Financial and Administration Officer with APEGA (The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta). Sharilee plays a vital role in engaging the organization in achieving its business, technology, and people objectives. She is able to use her previous experience to act as a change leader in adapting approaches to meet the changing needs of an organization and provide strategic support to the Executive Team.

Sharilee recognizes her very supportive family for allowing her to invest in her career growth; a gift she realizes not everyone has. But that's not all she credits to her success.

"Family, faith and friends are really the key. That old expression 'Don't sweat the small stuff' is true. I'm not particularly good at it, as I'm a bit of a perfectionist. But after my husband had his accident I got a better perspective. I'm not a 60% type of gal, so I still have to work at managing my expectations. The other thing that has been really critical for me is making sure the organization I am working with is aligned with my values, otherwise I find that disparity incredibly stressful."

Sharilee has enjoyed more than 30 years as a leader, team builder, and change agent, including work in both the profit and not-for-profit worlds, and an array of volunteer roles, including the RDC Foundation Board. Her family stays connected to their farm roots in Saskatchewan, where they enjoy four generations of friendship in the community.

"I love the challenge and opportunity to learn new things and having a stable personal life has enabled me to take those chances in my work life."



Athletics Season Review

The Kings and Queens conquered numerous ACAC and CCAA medals, titles, awards & recognitions, continuing their Royal Legacy.

It was another great year for RDC Athletics, which saw the Kings and Queens capture a total of 11 ACAC medals and two ACAC Championship titles, along with four CCAA medals. Our student-athletes received 24 ACAC and seven CCAA individual awards while two of our coaches were recognized at the ACAC and CCAA level.

KINGS BASKETBALL finished the regular season in fourth place in what was deemed a very tough south division, and finished fourth at the ACAC Championship. Shayne Stumpf and Matt Matear were both named to the ACAC South Second All-Conference team while Ian Tevis was named to the ACAC South First All-Conference Team and recognized as the ACAC Men's Basketball Player of the Year. Tevis was also named to the CCAA All-Canadian Team. He is the first student-athlete in RDC history to win the ACAC Basketball Player of the Year Award.

QUEENS BASKETBALL finished fifth in the ACAC South Division. Emily White was named to the ACAC Second All-Conference Team.

CROSS COUNTRY AND INDOOR TRACK had a great season under the guidance of rookie Head Coach Kari Elliott. The Queens captured the ACAC Cross Country Championship lead by an individual silver medal performance by Jordanna Cota. Four

members of the team finished in the top 10 in the ACAC Championship race. The women capped off their season with a silver medal finish at the CCAA Championships, led by a personal best performance by Jordanna Cota which earned her All-Canadian status. The Kings finished fourth at the ACAC Championships in what can only be described as a very deep and talented pool of runners. The men had several personal best performances at the Championship. The Queens continued adding to the medal tally winning team silver at the ACAC Indoor Track Championships. The Kings finished fourth. Amy Severtson and Jill Stewart were named to the ACAC All-Conference Team, along with Jordanna Cota who was also named to the CCAA All-Canadian Team. Coach Kari Elliott was named the ACAC Coach of the Year.

CURLING teams had a phenomenal year winning a medal in each ACAC Championship division. The teams won bronze in the men's division, and silver in both the women's and mixed team divisions. The Kings finished their season with a bronze medal performance at the CCAA Championships and the Queens captured the CCAA Title. These medal performances were delivered by some strong individual efforts including Ty Parcels, Ryan Dahmer and Ashlyn Wozny who were all named to the



Ninety-nine student-athletes were awarded the RDC Academic Excellence Award which recognizes a 3.0 GPA or higher.

ACAC All-Conference Team. Marla Sherr was named the ACAC Female Curler of the Year, making her the first RDC student-athlete to win this award. Brett Day and Ryan Dahmer were both named to the CCAA All-Star Team, while Coach Brad Hamilton was honoured with the CCAA Curling Coach of the Year Award. Ryan Dahmer was also recognized as an Academic All-Canadian by achieving honours standing during their last complete academic term while having been named to the All-Conference Team or a Championship All-Star Team.

GOLF teams had another solid performance at the ACAC Championships winning two team bronze medals and an individual bronze for Shaye Leidenuis. The teams were led by ACAC Coach of the Year, Scott Bergdahl.

KINGS HOCKEY finished fifth in the regular season and lost a close series in the quarter finals.

QUEENS HOCKEY finished third place in the regular season and lost in the semi-finals in what was probably one of the longest playoffs series in ACAC women's hockey due to the number of overtime periods. Ashley Graf and Jade Petrie were named to the ACAC

First All-Conference Team while Tracie Kikuchi and Emily Swier were named to the Second All-Conference Team.

KINGS SOCCER finished in fourth place in the ACAC South Division under new Head Coach, Wade Groenewegen van der Weiden.

QUEENS SOCCER finished fourth in the ACAC South Division. Chelsea Webster and Jessica Stewart were named to the ACAC South All-Conference Team. Stewart was also recognized as a CCAA Academic All-Canadian.

KINGS VOLLEYBALL had a spectacular season successfully defending both their ACAC and CCAA titles due to strong performances from Mike Sumner, Ty Moorman, Luke Brisbane and Reagan Fathers, who were named to the ACAC South All-Conference Team. Moorman and Brisbane were also named CCAA First Team All-Stars along with Matt Lofgren who received Second Team All-Star Honours. Reagan Fathers had an outstanding season being recognized at the Championship MVP at both the ACAC and CCAA level. Luke Brisbane was recognized as a CCAA Academic All-Canadian.

QUEENS VOLLEYBALL finished the regular season in first place in the South Division and went on to win the bronze medal at the ACAC Championship. Megan Schmidt and Miranda Dawe were both named to the ACAC South All-Conference Team. Dawe was also recognized as a CCAA Academic All-Canadian.

JOHN HERDMAN, Canada's National Women's Soccer team Head Coach, was welcomed by the RDC Kings and Queens to their annual Athletics Scholarship Breakfast. Herdman spoke to an enthusiastic crowd of 300 people in attendance and offered his insight and inspiration on leadership, motivation and creating a high-performance culture.

ATHLETICS AWARDS NIGHT wrapped up RDC's Athletic season with the premiere of "The RDC Legacy" video. Ninety-nine student-athletes were awarded the RDC Academic Excellence Award which recognizes student-athletes who achieve a 3.0 or higher GPA while participating in an RDC Kings or Queens program. Reagan Fathers (Kings Volleyball) and Jordanna Cota (Queens Cross Country Running and Indoor Track) were named the Red Deer Bottling Male & Female Athletes of the Year.

**THE 2019 GAMES
WILL FEATURE:**

18

Days

19

Sports

150

Sporting Events

3,600

Athletes, Managers,
& Coaches

20,000

Visitors

An Estimated Economic
Impact of Over

\$132 M.

RDC & THE 2019 GAMES

From February 15 to March 3, 2019, Red Deer and central Alberta will welcome the nation for the 2019 Canada Winter Games.

Red Deer College and the future state-of-the-art Gary W. Harris Canada Games Centre/Centre des Jeux du Canada Gary W. Harris will be a major hub of Games activity in 2019. Not only will five sports – figure skating, wheelchair basketball, short track speed skating, squash and badminton – be hosted at Red Deer College, but our main campus will also serve as the Athletes' Village for the duration of the Games.

The 2019 Canada Winter Games will be the largest event ever hosted in Red Deer and central Alberta. It will also be one of the largest events to be hosted in Alberta in the past three decades, since the 1988 Calgary Olympics. The Games will leave a lasting legacy of new and enhanced sport facilities, as well as volunteer and leadership development that will benefit athletes and the broader central Alberta communities for years to come.

Updates and details on the 2019 Canada Winter Games are available at canadagames.ca/2019.





Of Music & Building Fences

*The two hardly have anything in common, but for **Clayton Bellamy** (Music Diploma, 1996), they are one and the same. Pounding one post into the ground at a time, so that one day, you can look back and see how far you've come; that's his country roots inspiration.*

BORN AND RAISED in Bonnyville, Alberta, Clayton's path to music has had its fair-share of ups and downs, but it's the work ethic of his parents that got him started.

"My parents always told me two things: do what you love and you'll never work a day in your life, and the only way to get the job done is hard work. No matter what you're doing. They really instilled that in my sister and me."

Since farm life wasn't quite enough to sustain the Bellamy family, Clayton's father was a motorcycle mechanic in town while his mother held an accounting position at the local hospital. Music came naturally to him, and it was the keen discernment of both his parents and his teachers who saw a spark in Clayton from an early age.

"I was kind of weaned on what my parents listened to. I had an uncle who was a DJ and a real music aficionado. He would make mixed tapes and give them to me. I'd think, 'Uncle George gave it to me, so it must be good!' It had everything from The Beatles to The Rolling Stones; all these bands that shaped rock 'n roll music. That gave me a shape for songs and melody that I didn't even know I was getting at the time."

As a teenager in small-town Alberta with a growing love for music, you had to take opportunities however they came. Whether these opportunities were dressed as the Bonnyville Grand Ole Opry competition or playing in a band called The Prairie Ramblers at 16 with a bunch of 30 and 40-year-olds, Clayton seized them.

Before there was anything like American Idol or The Voice to offer opportunity to aspiring musicians, Clayton entered a local contest that landed him a finalist position on a statewide cable show in Nashville, Tennessee. With his father standing to the side of the stage as the crowd offered up applause and votes over the phone, Clayton's future was sealed; he was hooked.

"That was it. I knew in that instant that I wanted to become a part of that community. For me, being in music has never been about being famous. The most exciting thing for me is making great art,

and meeting other people who make great music. I want to know Steve Earle and Tom Petty, and know their process, and play music with them and hang out with them."

When it came time for college, Clayton barely got in to the RDC Music Diploma program as he hadn't learned to read music. After a summer course and two attempts, Red Deer was his new home.

"The program built a lot of confidence in me, and really opened my eyes to a variety of types of music," shares Clayton. Upping his singing game as a vocalist and jazz choir are some of his favourite memories.

Yet nothing surpasses a moment in Keith Mann's Music Business class. "The first day he walked in and wrote Music Business on the board and circled Business, and then he said 'Which is the biggest part?'"

Learning skills such as studying contracts, how to market yourself, how to put a press kit together, dealing with agents, percentages, booking tours, publishing your music – all of these became invaluable as he entered the world of not only artistry, but business. Now looking back, Clayton sees how complicated it all can be without a foundation of business sense to go along with your musical talent.

In normal Clayton Bellamy style, he started a band with some other classmates, called The Moonshine Bandits. Their agent booked their schedule so full that they nearly flunked out of college. He seemed to carry that building-fences spirit wherever he went – living and breathing his music.

"I would go to Canadian Music Week or Country Music Week, sleep in my van outside of the convention, and sneak into the events because I couldn't afford a hotel. I'd spend my days getting cards and meeting people. They had binders full of business cards and I would cold-call people – radio stations, record labels, and publishers, you name it. I would sometimes pretend to be someone else representing myself. I was so determined that this was what I was going to do! It was the ultimate fake it until you make it routine."

"Luck is preparation meeting opportunity. I was 28, and I had worked up to that point for that audition. I walked in there and nailed it."



So for the next seven years, Clayton and his band – The Clayton Bellamy Band – played six nights a week in nightclubs and whatever gig they could get. He continued to explore Nashville and finally moved there full-time in 2002.

"At that point I had taken what I was doing and had hit a wall. I was touring in bars and stuff and knew it was either going to fade away or swing for the fences. So, I packed everything I owned in my van and spent a year writing songs, meeting people, and making contacts."

When Clayton returned to Alberta after a year in America, he landed an audition for The Road Hammers – started by country artist, Jason McCoy. Fortunately for him, Clayton's roots rock music were just what they were looking for.

"Luck is preparation meeting opportunity. That's what that moment was. I was 28, and I had worked up to that point for that audition. I walked in there and nailed it. Jason was smiling the whole time. He had auditioned about 15 other guys for that job. He just couldn't find the right character – a rock 'n roll to his country guy. When we got together – he and I and Chris Byrne – it turned into some magic."

His years of building musical fences were finally starting to pay off. The Road Hammers self-titled first album was released in 2005, went gold in six months, winning a Juno for Country Recording of the Year, nominations for six CCMA Awards, and winning Group or Duo of the Year. Their first album's success continued into 2006, with The Road Hammers receiving two more CCMA awards, Group or Duo of the Year and Best Video.

A reality show was produced for two seasons on the making of the band. In the same year, Clayton got married, had a baby, and bought a house. You could say it was a fast and furious season.

Shortly thereafter, in 2007, The Road Hammers signed on with an American record label, with a rollercoaster ride that took them all over the world from China to Europe to Australia, but most memorably, the Grand Ole Opry. With a rare invitation to play two nights in a row, the three-man-band knew they were experiencing something special. As they played their final

song, their own version of Jerry Reed's East Bound and Down, the place erupted into a standing ovation. Left breathless, Clayton fell to his knees and kissed the stage.

"Even when things get difficult, I still have to remind myself I've been able to accomplish more than 99% of people who set out to play music. I've been blessed to make a living doing something that I love."

Unfortunately, as fast as the musical rollercoaster ride climbed the track of success, it came to a crashing halt when their new record label went bankrupt. Everything they had worked for was instantly gone.

"It literally fell apart right as our single was about to break on the Top 40. We had billboards with our faces on them in downtown Nashville, and a TV show of our own. As quick as it was all there, it was just as quickly gone. That was a huge blow to work that hard and lose everything."

The three artists agreed to go their separate ways, and for a few years produced on their own. Then in 2015, they came back stronger than ever with the release of their album, *Wheels*, with the song that went gold, *MUD*. Their latest album released this spring including the popular song, *Crazy About You*. The band has clearly proven that the love of music is stronger than a setback, and that creating is more important than giving up.

Clayton continues to split his time between Alberta and Nashville, enjoying time with his seven-year-old daughter and 12-year-old son when he is home on the prairies. If he gets a night off, it's still spent loving on music – whether at a concert, or at home writing and working the music muscle.

"I've always been a big believer in surrounding yourself with excellence. Write with as many people as you can, and the best people that you can. Until those best people will say yes to writing with you. When I think of people who make not only great music, but make great statements, they're still out there making great music, pushing the envelope. Making fence – that's my philosophy. Write 50 songs and hope you get one good one out of them."

Building on the momentum from the gold single *MUD* from our Album *Wheels*, we are set to release our latest single *Crazy About You* off our most recent album that is set to be released in the spring."



50 Year Story – Another Milestone to Celebrate at RDC

*It has been 50 years
since we first welcomed
learners to RDC's
campus when we opened
our doors to the world,
and it is exciting to think
about where the next 50
years will take us!*

RDC CELEBRATED our 50th anniversary in 2013. This year, 2017, marks another 50 year milestone of when RDC's main campus was officially opened to students. From the initial opening of Red Deer Junior College in 1963 until the fall of 1967, students attended classes in shared space at Lindsay Thurber Composite High School as construction took place on the site that is now where RDC's main campus is situated. When the main building was completed, RDC welcomed its first classes to campus in September 1967. We have seen a continued growth and transformation from the time that post-secondary education was offered in our city, and the evolution continues.

As one example, the College is constructing the Gary W. Harris Canada Games Centre/ Centre des Jeux du Canada Gary W. Harris and eagerly anticipates its opening in the fall of 2018.

Each year, at RDC's Community Awards Dinner in May, we honour the 50-year class and beyond. This year, we welcomed the classes from 1965-1968 to join us. This

milestone is important to recognize as it sits as a symbol of where everything began for our College.

It is equally important as we recognize the changes that are coming for our institution. Red Deer College has been a great resource for our community and has developed learners who have gone on to accomplish great things. Not just here, but beyond our community.

The latest evolution, as we look to the future, is to move forward with our region's desire for RDC to become a degree-granting institution. If successful, this means RDC would continue to offer the same comprehensive mix of programs we offer now, with the addition of being able to grant our own degrees. This enhancement would ensure RDC continues to train and retain the best and brightest people.

We're proud of our role contributing to the intellectual, economic, social, and cultural development of our region to ensure opportunities continue to thrive in central Alberta.

Your Time, Talent, or Treasures

It's at the core of every individual. It keeps some awake at night, and others it drives for their entire life. For many, it becomes their lifeblood, and for others, it's an outlet of helping others or a way to form connections.

WE ALL WANT to give something of ourselves, to someone, somewhere, and be remembered for kindness. Our means may be what separates us, but why does it have to stop us? Giving of oneself is not just monetary.

In 2013, 44% of our Canadian population participated in some form of volunteer work (Stats Can), and 84% gave to some charitable organization (Imagine Canada). People are finding ways to do something meaningful with what is in their hands.

Your time at RDC was a catalyst to wherever you are today, and we would love nothing more than to stay connected. We would love for our campus and students to be a part of your continued growth and be that outlet for connecting and giving. But impact and connection can come in different forms, whether it is time, talents, or treasures.

The old saying that time is money rings true for many. It's one of the few things that you give and can never get back. And it's something every one of our valued alumni can give. From the College's variety of special events throughout the year, to our athletics games or volunteering as a tutor, there are many ways for individuals to stay connected.

Take for instance **Rosaline (Rocky) Beekhan** who worked in the Registrar's Office for 20 years. She also found ways to volunteer and get to know students through her time serving in athletics. From calling alumni to travelling as a den mother, to being a fan in the stands, Rocky has been a proud supporter of RDC Athletics for decades.

"I'm not an athlete whatsoever." She laughs. "I volunteer just because I enjoyed doing it. The athletes just kind of became part of my family. Now when they're coming back (to volunteer), it's great to see them and how they've been so successful, because you knew them as teenagers and young adults, and now they're sending their sons and daughters to the College."

Staying connected and volunteering with RDC through your talents is also a dynamic way to give back to programs and people that you relate to; who may desire to follow in your footsteps.

For a creative individual such as author and speaker **Sigmund Brouwer** (Bachelor of Science & Arts History, 1978 & 1989), speaking at RDC, and now forming scholarships in the past year, has been a way to return to his roots and make an impact on aspiring writers. His latest book, *Rock 'N Roll Literacy*, is a support for those who work with kids to cultivate good reading and writing skills. He has found a way for his love of language and writing to reach beyond his fiction pieces, and into the lives of the next generation.

"I struggled with the writing process in school so I'd like to help any of the children who face the same difficulties at school by sharing with them that their stories matter," says Sigmund.

*Connection and making a difference does not live in a box.
It isn't constrained by the measures we think it is.
Neither is staying connected to your home roots at RDC.*

Then there are those who have been blessed with the means to give beyond what they need, and make an incredible lifelong impact through the lives of RDC students for years to come. Donors from all walks of life have generously created scholarships and awards for students since the College's inception. Maybe one of you reading this was a recipient of a donor's kindness, and your education was made possible because of them.

In March, Red Deer College presented to the **100 Men Red Deer** group about the importance of the Student Emergency Bursary Fund at RDC. The College was selected as the recipient of support from this group. By donating to the RDC Emergency Bursary, 100 Men Red Deer is helping students at their time of greatest need. This is another example of the many ways to give back to the College. It doesn't have to be a huge undertaking, but even this example shows that many hands make light work!

You see, connection and making a difference does not live in a box. It isn't constrained by the measures we think it is. Neither is you staying connected to your home roots at RDC.

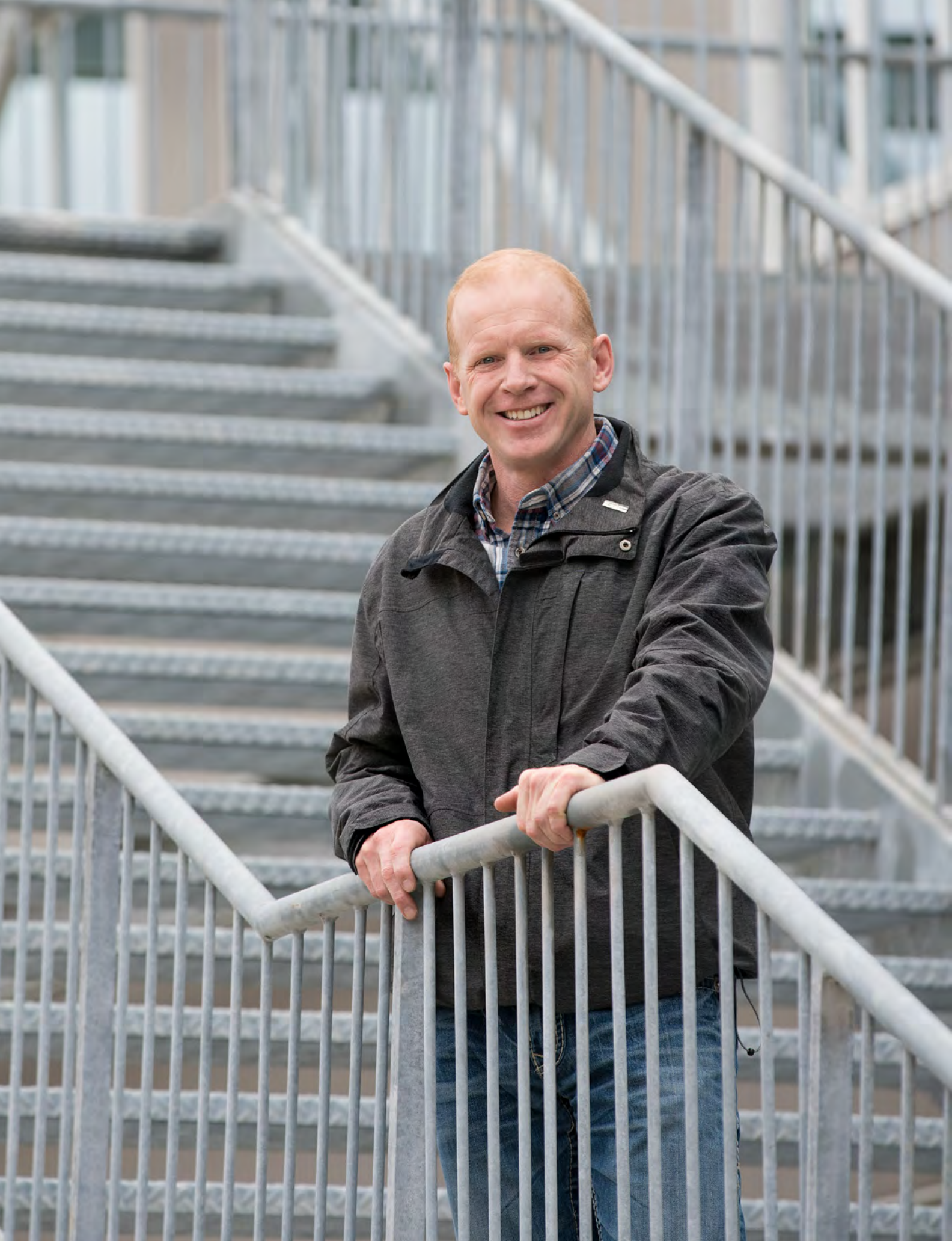
Whether your connection to RDC is through your time, talent, or treasures – all are equally valued, beautiful, and needed. Our students' successes are a testament to that.



"I'm not an athlete whatsoever." Says Rocky Beekhan. "I volunteer just because I enjoyed doing it."



"I struggled with the writing process in school so I'd like to help any of the children who face the same difficulties," says author, Sigmund Brouwer.



Leave It To Bryan in Central Alberta

*As a journeyman carpenter, past mortgage agent, and with a heart for Indigenous communities, **Bryan Armstrong** is meeting unique needs with sea-can homebuilding.*

IN A DAY AND AGE when people are more concerned about home building cost and design, it takes a true entrepreneurial spirit to collect what is being done successfully along with one's own personal experience and marry it into a truly great product. Bryan Armstrong's (Business Admin '92, Carpenter Apprentice '10) history may be diverse, but it's that exact history that makes him a perfect candidate for the product he is offering with his new company TeckTonik Developments Inc.

TeckTonik is a new homebuilder in central Alberta that utilizes sea-cans as the primary structure. The only of its kind in Red Deer, TeckTonik offers something new for the client who is financially and environmentally conscious. With their homes being nearly 10-30% cheaper, and able to be built in six to eight weeks, TeckTonik still provides customers the look and feel of a 'real' home. While all sea-can layouts are ranch style, they appeal to the client who favours one level homes with an open floor plan.

But why sea-cans, why central Alberta, and why Bryan? After Bryan took some courses in Business Administration at RDC, he became interested in the stock market, and moved to Calgary. Being the entrepreneur that he is, he ended up painting with College Pro, and moved back to Red Deer to run a business. Due to the heaviness of the paint fumes, he changed direction and took his mortgage agent course and also opened his own karate kickboxing school. As time passed, he became interested in carpentry. After taking some pre-employment programs, he was hired by Stuart Olson, and worked on RDC's Four Centres that opened in 2009, simultaneously completing his journeyman ticket at the College. After some time in the industry, work dried up and Bryan found himself unemployed in February 2016. Rather than wait for the next job, in true entrepreneurial fashion, he decided to start TeckTonik Developments Inc.

Sea-can homes have been wildly popular in Europe, and Bryan saw an opportunity for Alberta residents. However, it isn't just about the bottom line, but being socially conscious, too. A very important

part of TeckTonik is a pilot program for Alberta Indigenous communities in which TeckTonik provides education, employment, and residences for reserve communities. As a journeyman carpenter, past mortgage agent, and someone who knows the industry, with a heart for Indigenous communities, Bryan is able to uniquely meet a need. With a current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Olds College, Bryan has been given the go-ahead to pursue this pilot program with one reserve in Alberta.

By taking the program to the community, he hopes to offer a blended learning model.

"I believe that at the end of the day we will be creating an educational opportunity that enhances enrolment in the carpentry apprenticeship and pre-employment (programs), as well as increasing a skilled labour force, and addressing housing and employment needs," shares Bryan.

With recycling initiatives that will go back in to a trust account for the reserve, this pilot program will create opportunities that haven't yet been done.

"I have everything in my life that I need, but not everything that I want. I want to create a legacy for my children, future generations, and communities in Alberta. I'm just bringing different things together in a format that hasn't been done before."

As a volunteer for the PAC (Provincial Apprenticeship Committee) and the LAC (Local Apprenticeship Committee), Bryan collaborates with RDC 4th year Carpentry students when he marks their final project – a desk. In his spare time, he maintains his energy level with regular kickboxing and cardio kickboxing at Kensei Martial Arts in Red Deer.

*To learn more about what TeckTonik Developments Inc. is doing in our community, visit their website at **tecktonikdevelopments.com**.*

In RDC's Seven Schools

SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

rdc.ab.ca/artsandsciences

This School opens up limitless learning opportunities and career possibilities to our learners. Through a wide assortment of university transfer courses, as well as a Bachelor of Arts collaborative degree, students have access to a wide array of academic courses to begin their post-secondary education in central Alberta. The School also houses a Social Work diploma, Career and Academic Preparation and Open Studies. A new diploma program in Media Studies and Professional Communication was introduced in September 2016. This two-year program includes a workplace experience component and provides graduates with the only job-ready Communications credential offered in the region and the option to continue into a degree program. A full cohort of enthusiastic students are taking classes in subjects including social media, public relations, visual design and photography. Some highlights from the past year include: students presenting their work at the Student Science and Engineering Conference, with guest speaker Dr. Joe Schwarcz (Office for Science and Society at McGill University); and the Agora Student Conference, featuring presentations by students in humanities and social sciences classes. In March, the School presented Perspectives: Canada in the World, welcoming Dr. Gabor Maté. Dr. Maté spoke about trauma, dislocation and addiction in a stressed culture to a sold-out crowd.

DONALD SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

rdc.ab.ca/dsb

Ideally located in downtown Red Deer, the Donald School of Business is preparing our next generation of business leaders to be innovative, strategic and informed. Students, business leaders and community members converge at the Donald School of Business, providing our learners with a real-world sense of the valuable work they will be undertaking in their chosen careers and engaging business leaders in the long-term direction of the School. A key moment from the past year was the celebration of a special milestone when enrolment surpassed 1,000 students for the 2016-17 academic year. From the time we opened the doors at RDC's downtown campus in the fall of 2011, we've grown enrolment 82%. The breadth of business programs offered by this School allows students to follow their chosen career paths without having to leave central Alberta.

SCHOOL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

rdc.ab.ca/continuing-education

Expand your horizons with the RDC School of Continuing Education. Build your career and gain personal fulfillment with a wide range of certificate programs and professional development courses. Our flexible part-time, online and fast track programs are designed for busy lifestyles. The School of Continuing Education offers nearly 1,000 professional development and community courses, events and certificate programs to more than 36,000 youth and adult learners each year.

SCHOOL OF CREATIVE ARTS

rdc.ab.ca/creativearts

The perfect blend of theory and practice provides students in RDC's School of Creative Arts with the inspiration and knowledge to explore their talents without limitation. Students are encouraged to create their own path as they explore their creativity in world-class facilities including the awe-inspiring RDC Arts Centre, Visual Art studios and the Welikoklad Event Centre in downtown Red Deer.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

rdc.ab.ca/education

The School of Education inspires learners to be the role models of their communities with an education that promotes community connections and self-confidence. Students learn to learn, learn to teach and grow into leaders that inspire. With instructors who are skilled practitioners themselves, our learners are provided with countless opportunities to be inspired and understand the impact of their future careers in education.

Some School highlights include:

- Offering courses through the School of Continuing Education to employed educational assistants from three local school divisions.
- Hosting a Showcase of Learning with student work and a team of instructors, in collaboration with Central Alberta Regional Consortium (CARC).
- Organizing a Path to Awareness conference that promotes Aboriginal awareness and opportunities to learn for students in the School of Education.



What's New

SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

rdc.ab.ca/healthsciences

The School of Health Sciences is one of the foremost leaders in health and wellness programming in Alberta. With innovative approaches to learning and extensive real-world experiences, our graduates demonstrate the knowledge, skills and professionalism needed to meet the stringent expectations of the industry. One element of programming that we are very proud of is the inter-professional learning experiences provided to students across all our programs. The School has adopted national inter-professional competencies that help guide faculty to develop learning opportunities for students across programs to learn together.

Our Disaster Simulation experience involves students, faculty and staff from Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Practical Nursing, Pharmacy Technician, Occupational and Physical Therapist Assistant, Medical Lab Assistant and Kinesiology and Sport Studies. Students and faculty come with their own perspectives of what they think other health care professionals do, and sometimes these perceptions aren't totally accurate. Inter-Professional Education (IPE) provides the opportunity to not only learn about their own role, but about the role and contributions from others on the health care team. The School offers a number of IPE courses where students from the School's programs learn together about communication, anatomy and physiology, and leadership, with faculty from across programs teaching these courses.

SCHOOL OF TRADES AND TECHNOLOGIES

rdc.ab.ca/tradesandtechnologies

Programs are developed and delivered based on industry requirements and a focus on practical skill application. Through close consultation with industry experts, our Engineering Technology diploma programs are developed to provide students with a thorough understanding of the expectations their future employers will have, along with the skills and knowledge to meet those expectations.

Some highlights of the past year include:

- For the third year, RDC partnered with four local school districts to deliver the School Within a College (SWAC) program. This program provides the opportunity for students to finish earlier than a traditional high school program allowing them to get a head start in the career of their choice.
- Two new programs were launched this year. The Virtual Reality and Co-operative Trades – The Next Generation program (offered through RDC's School of Continuing Education) offers Aboriginal learners the opportunity to develop practical skills and knowledge needed for welding careers. The Instrumentation Engineering Technology (IET) diploma adds to our complement of two existing Engineering Technology diplomas.
- The School has been part of planning for the new Alternative Energy Lab (AEL) at RDC. The AEL will provide a tremendous space and resources for training, demonstration, and applied research in the areas of wind, solar, and combined-heat-and-power energy systems. Construction of the AEL will begin soon and will be completed by next spring.
- RDC faculty, staff and students have been active in the College's Makerspace. First Robotics Canada competitions were hosted at RDC in the fall and winter, testing a range of robot design ideas. The work with Robotics and Makerspace support a technology culture which prepares learners for tomorrow's automated and increasingly complex systems.
- More than 800 kilograms of food was rescued and transformed into a delicious feast at Feed 500 last fall in Red Deer. The event, organized in partnership by The City of Red Deer, Red Deer College and the Recycling Council of Alberta, brought attention to the issue of food waste. Based on the international Feeding the 5000 global movement, the idea is simple: feed 5000 people – or 500 in the case of Red Deer – with edible food that would otherwise be thrown away. Students from all three levels of Red Deer College's Cook Apprentice program prepared and served the food made entirely from food rescued from local growers, producers and grocery stores.
- Carpentry instructors expanded their learning with a timber framing course. Resulting projects were taken to the JJ Collett Natural Area, near Lacombe, where the instructors set up the structure and then donated it to the society.

Playing Our Part

RDC's new Alumni Development Coordinator, Bre Fitzpatrick, sees firsthand the remarkable impact of those who maintain a strong connection to RDC.

WE ARE WALKING into exciting times. We are so fortunate to be nestled in the robust region of central Alberta. Being newer to this role, I have had the opportunity to watch this unique group from the vantage point of serving on the Alumni Association Board since 2013 as a volunteer, to joining the Community Relations team at RDC to now being the Alumni Development Coordinator.

The unifying feature I have observed in each of these roles is the supportive groups of people who maintain a strong connection to Red Deer College. They are the mortar between the bricks of what we are today and what we will be in the future. Without this vibrant group, we would not have things like the 13th Annual Fine Wine & Food Tasting event or a Paving Our Future paving stone project that has the potential to mark the names of our past alumni forever on the walkway to the Gary W. Harris Canada Games Centre/Centre des Jeux du Canada Gary W. Harris.

It was one of the Alumni Association Scholarship recipients who penned her sentiments so eloquently to say:

"Your contribution not only blesses me in my journey but also the journey of the many others I hope to serve." – Keira, Social Work Student

Thank you to each of you who contribute your time, talent and treasure to Red Deer College. We thank you for what it means to us and also what it means to those we serve in the larger picture. To us, that is a robust injection of skilled professionals prepared to work in the areas of Health and Wellness, Arts, Sciences, Business, Skilled Trades, Technology, Education and Social Sciences that we offer. They serve the communities around the world, and we are so honoured to have played a part in their bigger picture.





Take advantage of your alumni privileges.

Get preferred rates and coverage that fits your needs.

You could **save big*** when
you combine your alumni
preferred rates and bundle
your home and car insurance.

Recommended by



Supporting you ... and Red Deer College.

As a Red Deer College alumni, you have access to the TD Insurance Meloche Monnex program. This means you can get preferred insurance rates on a wide range of home and car coverage that can be customized for your needs.

For over 65 years, TD Insurance has been helping Canadians find quality home and car insurance solutions.

Feel confident your home and car coverage fits your needs.
Get a quote now.

HOME | CAR | TRAVEL

Get a quote and see how much you could save!

Call **1-888-589-5656**

Or, go to tdinsurance.com/RDCAA



The TD Insurance Meloche Monnex program is underwritten by SECURITY NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY. It is distributed by Meloche Monnex Insurance and Financial Services, Inc. in Quebec, by Meloche Monnex Financial Services Inc. in Ontario, and by TD Insurance Direct Agency Inc. in the rest of Canada. Our address: 50 Place Cremazie, 12th Floor, Montreal, Quebec H2P 1B6. Due to provincial legislation, our car and recreational insurance program is not offered in British Columbia, Manitoba or Saskatchewan. *Nationally, 90% of all of our clients who belong to a professional or alumni group that has an agreement with us and who insure a home (excluding rentals and condos) and a car on October 31, 2016, saved \$625 when compared to the premiums they would have paid without the preferred insurance rate for groups and the multi-product discount. Savings are not guaranteed and may vary based on the client's profile. Savings vary in each province and may be higher or lower than \$625. Wide Horizons Solution® Travel Insurance is underwritten by Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance Company of Canada and distributed in some provinces by RSA Travel Insurance Inc., operating as RSA Travel Insurance Agency in British Columbia. All trade marks are the property of their respective owners. ® The TD logo and other TD trade-marks are the property of The Toronto-Dominion Bank.