

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Olds Institute Hires Community Economic Development Officer

(OLDS, Alberta – August 5, 2009) Taking another significant step towards its goal of facilitating community and regional economic growth, the Olds Institute for Community and Regional Development has hired its first full-time Community Economic Development Officer. Gail Scott effectively begins her tenure on August 17, meets the Olds Institute board the next day, and attends her first town council meeting on Aug.24.

Scott has over 20 years of private and public sector community and regional economic development experience. Most recently, she was the CEO for Venture Kamloops and played a key role in launching a highly successful Kamloops-Beijing, China, trade mission. Other notable achievements include implementation of BC' Small Business Start-up Loan program and playing a key role in the BC government's Climate Action Plan for the Ministry of Transportation.

"Gail's experience and well-demonstrated drive is exactly what we have been searching for," says Stirling McLeod, Chairman of the Olds Institute for Community & Regional Development. "We look forward to working with her to make this already-exemplary community an even better place to live and do business in."

The Olds Institute is a public volunteer board mandated by the Town Council to conduct community consultation and provide direction to community and

economic development initiatives in Olds. The board membership includes representation from Town Council, Olds College, Olds Agricultural Society, Olds and District Chamber of Commerce, Mountain View County, and Chinook's Edge School Division, plus eight members from the public at-large. Its mission is “to encourage and facilitate community and regional economic growth and well being”.

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