

August 30, 2011

The Power of Knowledge is coming to Alberta September 29 Alberta Rural Development Network event showcases rural projects & collaboration

Albertans involved in rural development are invited to attend the Power of Knowledge, an event that showcases the latest projects and partnerships. Organized by the Alberta Rural Development Network, the event takes place Thursday, September 29, 2011, at the Executive Royal Inn in Leduc. It includes an afternoon of presentations followed by an evening keynote address and networking reception.

Mark Partridge, a noted authority on sustainable rural development, will deliver The Power of Knowledge keynote address. As Swank Chair in Rural-Urban Policy at Ohio State University, Partridge knows firsthand the strength of partnerships between post-secondary institutions and the communities they serve. Harnessing the research and objectivity of learning institutions to the knowledge and experience of rural leaders can lead to growth in both economic prosperity and quality of life.

Afternoon presentations include:

- 21st Century Leader: Transitioning Knowledge, Wisdom and Experience to the Next Generation – two young leaders share the tips and tricks of leading learned from seasoned college presidents
- SimuNation – a presentation on how patient simulators can benefit rural health practitioners
- Young Adult Photovoice Project – rural pastor retells the 10 weeks, 170 photos and one event that gave rural youth a voice
- Enhanced Independent Living for Rural Seniors and Persons with Disabilities – rural college explores how technology can extend independent living in rural communities
- Community-Engaged Rural Learning Initiative – ARDN reveals new project that aims to enhance rural student internship placements

Sharing research results and presenting success stories are important, but the greatest benefit of the event will be the networking opportunities. Other ARDN events, such as the *Creating Rural Connections* conference, have led to numerous community-post secondary collaborations across Alberta.

Though the event is free, participants must pre-register at www.ardn.ca or by calling 1-877-987-1006 ext. 221.

The Alberta Rural Development Network (ARDN) is a not-for-profit partnership of Alberta's 21 public colleges, universities and technical institutes working together to support rural communities. ARDN is funded in part by the Rural Alberta Development Fund whose funding is provided by the Government of Alberta.

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