

February 12, 2009

## ***EnCana Community Investment in Ponoka***



It believes in and supports the aspirations that every community holds. It is proud of the leadership role it is able to play through assisting with projects that strengthen the social fabric, by bringing families and communities together in the pursuit of health, recreational and social activities. It pursues its goals knowing that strong, healthy families help create vibrant, viable communities.

That is why EnCana is committed to investing in Ponoka's new Ag-Event Centre that is being planned by the Ponoka Agriculture Event Centre Society (PAECS). And invest it did - with a commitment of \$500,000 towards the construction of the Ponoka Ag-Event Centre that will serve not only the residents of Ponoka and the region, but residents from throughout the province.

"It is so encouraging to have a corporation like EnCana support our community with an investment of \$500,000 in the Centre," says Charlie Cutforth, Chair, PAECS. "We are grateful for EnCana's important contribution that clearly illustrates its commitment to the communities it serves."

As of January 2009, the Society has been successful with obtaining an impressive \$5M in grants, pledges and sponsorships towards the \$8.5M campaign goal for the project. The Centre will be built on land located adjacent to Highway 2A south of the Ponoka Legion. Appropriate zoning, development and servicing preparations are already underway.

In April 2008, RC Strategies Inc. presented a study to the Ponoka Ag Event Centre Society that identified a significant gap between existing agriculture event facilities available in Alberta and what is needed. In response to that gap, a unique non-profit organization, The Ponoka Agriculture Event Centre Society (PAECS), was formed comprised of representatives from the following partners:

- Ponoka Agriculture Society
- Ponoka Stampede Association
- Ponoka County
- Town of Ponoka.

PAECS is committed to planning, building and operating a year-round agriculture, recreation, special events and education centre. The Centre will serve a diverse group of people from the community, the region, across Alberta and beyond.

EnCana is a leading North American unconventional natural gas and integrated oil company. By partnering with employees, community organizations and other businesses, EnCana contributes to the strength and sustainability of the communities where it operates.



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