

February 18th, 2021

Immediate release

PRESS RELEASE

**EDUCATION PROGRAM – CAMPUS SAINT-JEAN’S SATELLITE CAMPUS IN RED DEER
IN COLLABORATION WITH RED DEER COLLEGE**

The University of Alberta’s Campus Saint-Jean and Red Deer College announce their collaboration within the framework of the “Training spaces: increasing the capacity to meet the need for teachers” program, supported at the federal and provincial levels.

Two programs are now offered to those wishing to complete a Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) in French while remaining close to their community in Red Deer. Students will apply to Campus Saint-Jean and take their first two years of courses at Red Deer College’s (RDC) main campus. Enrollment is currently open and courses will begin in the Fall 2021 semester.

The programs offered in Red Deer are as follows:

- B.Ed. Elementary (first two years at RDC, last two years at Campus Saint-Jean, practicum in central Alberta region)
- B.Ed. Secondary (first two years at RDC, last two years at Campus Saint-Jean, practicum in central Alberta region)

The heart of Campus Saint-Jean is its historic and dynamic community. While their studies will be entirely from Red Deer for the first two years, the students attending RDC’s main campus will be an integral part of the communities of Saint-Jean and Red Deer College. Students will have access to local services and facilities offered by RDC, and will also be included in community activities organized by Campus Saint-Jean. They will benefit from the support of student services (La Centrale), academic and social support and most of the other services offered to students based in Edmonton.

This partnership is anticipated to increase the number of teachers in French immersion programs and in Francophone schools in the province, and meet the needs of Francophone communities in Alberta. For Campus Saint-Jean, this is an important milestone in its history that demonstrates its flexibility and ability to meet the demands of a world in transition. RDC is pleased to partner with the University of Alberta’s Campus Saint-Jean to increase applied learning opportunities within central Alberta. RDC is a vibrant and welcoming post-secondary institution that offers more than 100 programs including degrees, certificates, diplomas and skilled trades programs.

“This unique program will provide more students in central Alberta with diverse, second language learning opportunities much closer to their home communities. Through this partnership, our students will grow their French language skills and build successful careers teaching our youth, while also meeting the ever-growing demand for French immersion education and enhancing the cultural and economic vibrancy of our region,” says Guy Pelletier, Chair of RDC’s Board of Governors.

Dr. Julia Rheaume, Associate Dean in the School of Education at Red Deer College, has been a strong advocate for offering this pathway to learners in the central Alberta region. “As a Campus Saint-Jean alumnus and former French Immersion teacher, I am keen to provide an opportunity for local students to pursue their post-secondary education studies *en français*, and at the same time help meet local school division demand for French-speaking teachers,” says Dr. Rheaume.

Professor Pierre-Yves Mocquais, Dean of Campus Saint-Jean, stated he is “delighted with this collaboration between two institutions close to the hearts of Albertans.” He added that “Campus Saint-Jean is counting on the support of the various Francophone and Francophile community actors to ensure the sustainability of this ambitious project”.

To learn more and register for the French Bachelor of Education degree program, please visit uab.ca/CSJsat.

-30-

Media contacts:

[Philip Worré](#)

Communications and Marketing Lead
Campus Saint-Jean, University of Alberta

[Shelley Newman](#) or [Brent Forster](#)

Communications Strategists
Red Deer College

About Campus Saint-Jean

Campus Saint-Jean, a French-language multidisciplinary academic unit of the University of Alberta, which includes the Faculté Saint-Jean, the Centre collégial de l'Alberta and the École de langues, is defined by its commitment to integrate learning, discovery and citizenship. Today, over 1,000 students, driven by a desire to continue their post-secondary education in French, attend the Campus Saint-Jean and study within its college, bachelor and master's programs. Campus Saint-Jean respectfully acknowledges that its programs are offered on Treaty 6, Treaty 7 and Treaty 8 territory.

For more information on CSJ, please visit: uab.ca/CSJ | [twitter](#) | [facebook](#) | [instagram](#)

About Red Deer College

Red Deer College's story began in 1964 when its first group of students attended classes. The College proudly serves its learners and communities with more than 100 programs across a breadth of credentials, as well as impressive learning spaces and facilities. The College estimates that about 6,200 full-and part-time credit and apprenticeships students will enrol for the 2020/2021 academic year. RDC also provides lifelong learning opportunities to 34,000 youth and adult learners annually in the School of Continuing Education, which is housed at its downtown campus, located in Red Deer's Millennium Centre. RDC's main campus is located on Treaty 7, Treaty 6 and Métis ancestral lands. This is where we will strive to honour and transform our relationships with one another.

For more information on RDC, please visit: rdc.ab.ca | [twitter](#) | [facebook](#) | [instagram](#)