

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Mary's University College undertakes campus enhancement projects thanks to federal infrastructure funding

Calgary, AB (August 20, 2010) – Construction of an onsite water supply main is nearly complete at St. Mary's University College thanks to infrastructure funding from the federal government. Last summer, St. Mary's received approval for \$442,750 in matching funds from Industry Canada's Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP) to complete several campus enhancement projects.

The water main installation work is expected to be completed by the end of September and will enable the expansion of St. Mary's natural science and technology facilities located in four buildings across campus and prepare the site for further development of science and technology programs. Previously, the 35 acre campus was serviced by an internal water system which was no longer adequate for the growing institution. Implementation of the new water system will enable St. Mary's to install important campus safety elements, including fire hydrants and sprinkling systems.

Another capital project partly funded by KIP was the replacement last summer of the boilers and roof in the classroom building. In addition, a number of IT improvements have been made recently, including the installation of new servers with enhanced computer power and data storage capabilities, an upgrade that has benefitted faculty and students by increasing access to research databases and improving broadband access.

"The St. Mary's University College community is very grateful to the Canadian government for its support of campus infrastructure enhancement," said Dr. Terry Downey, President of St. Mary's University College. "This investment in our campus will ensure we can continue to provide high quality programs and an exceptional learning environment for our students."

The Knowledge Infrastructure Program is a component of Canada's Economic Action Plan, a stimulus package introduced by the Canadian government in 2009, which will provide up to \$2 billion to support infrastructure enhancement at universities and colleges.

About St. Mary's University College

St. Mary's University College is a Catholic post-secondary, liberal arts and sciences teaching and research institution open to all faiths and traditions. St. Mary's offers Bachelor of Arts degrees, a Bachelor of Education (Elementary) degree and university courses in 33 academic disciplines. For more information, visit www.stmu.ab.ca

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For media inquiries, contact:

Marcelina Johanson
Communications Coordinator
St. Mary's University College
(403) 254-3705
marcelina.johanson@stmu.ab.ca