



## MEDIA RELEASE

April 22, 2010

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### South Okanagan learning partnership signed

A new partnership in the South Okanagan between School District 67, Greyback Construction, the Penticton Indian Band and Okanagan College will bring training opportunities for students and new facilities for the Penticton Indian Band.

The 2010 Home for Learning project will see 12 students in the College's Residential Construction program work under the supervision of Greyback Construction and an Okanagan College instructor to build an office structure in conjunction with Westhills' Aggregates.

School District 67 will work in support of one of its students who will take the dual-credit program while completing Secondary School graduation requirements.

Representatives from each of the partners met in early April to sign a Memorandum of Understanding.

"We have had great success with our Home for Learning projects," explained Randy Werger, Associate Dean of Trades and Apprenticeship. "A key contributor to that success is the strength of our community and industry partnerships. This program is a win-win for everyone involved, especially the students who have the ability to learn in a practical and applicable way. We value our working relationships with the Penticton Indian Band, Greyback Construction and School District 67, which make these kinds of projects possible."

After spending six weeks in class learning about safety, tool usage and carpentry principles the students went on site April 12 and will work to bring the building to lock-up stage. Once their class is finished, in mid-July, Greyback Construction will complete the project.

Students involved in the project receive technical training credit for Residential Construction Framing Technician and for level one carpentry at Okanagan College.

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Eds: Please find attached a photo of the MOU signing (from l to r): David Burgeoyne, Assistant Superintendent SD 67; Greg Gabriel, Penticton Indian Band Manager; Dr. Andrew Hay, Vice President Education Okanagan College; and Randy Werger, Associate Dean Trades and Apprenticeship, Okanagan College.

For more information:

Christine Ulmer, Public Affairs  
Okanagan College - 250-862-5616