

FCC makes three-year commitment to Aboriginal Student Empowerment Fund

Regina, Saskatchewan, September 12, 2012 – Farm Credit Canada (FCC) is committing \$150,000 over the next three years to help Aboriginal post-secondary students in Regina and Moose Jaw achieve their educational goals. This initiative is part of the FCC Aboriginal Student Empowerment Fund, established last year by FCC and four post-secondary institutions.

“This is a unique partnership and we are grateful for the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of Aboriginal students,” said FCC Senior Vice-President, Human Resources, Greg Honey. “FCC is committed to growing diversity in our workforce. We are also committed to investing in the community where our employees live and work. The FCC Aboriginal Student Empowerment Fund allows us to do both.”

The fund was developed in partnership with Aboriginal support centres from the First Nations University of Canada, the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies, the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology, and the University of Regina. Funding is distributed based on the Aboriginal student population enrolled in relevant programs of study at each institution. The institutions will also be responsible for administering the funding.*

“We all know the cost of education goes far beyond tuition. By providing up to \$1,000 per applicant to assist with costs such as child care, bus passes and damage deposits, students will be able to spend more time concentrating on school and less time worrying about finances,” said Honey. “The FCC Aboriginal Student Empowerment Fund is a way for us to assist Aboriginal students and to create awareness about FCC as a potential employer.”

In 2011, FCC provided \$50,000 to establish the fund, with over 50 students receiving assistance over the last year. For one student, it has made a huge impact.

“You never know when you will be faced with a situation you can’t handle on your own. As a single mother on a limited budget, it is difficult to know where to turn for help,” explained one fund recipient. “This fund played a major role in helping me complete my studies. If it wasn’t for FCC, I would have been forced to make some tough choices. FCC didn’t give me a hand-out but a hand-up and that is something that I am truly grateful for.”

Aboriginal students interested in applying for funding should visit www.fcc.ca/studentfund for more information.

FCC is one of Canada’s top employers, and strives to have a workforce that represents the diversity of its customers and the Canadian workforce as a whole.

As Canada’s leading agriculture lender, FCC is advancing the business of agriculture. With a healthy portfolio of more than \$24 billion and 19 consecutive years of portfolio growth, FCC is strong and stable – committed to serving the industry through all cycles. FCC provides financing, insurance, software, learning programs and other business services to producers, agribusinesses and agri-food operations. FCC employees are passionate about agriculture and committed to the success of customers and the industry. As one of Imagine Canada’s Caring Companies, FCC gives one per cent of its profits to charities and not-for-profit organizations. For more information, visit www.fcc.ca.



News release

For more information, please contact:

Jamie Gibson (anglophone)
Farm Credit Canada
306-780-3351
jamie.gibson@fcc.ca

Éva Larouche (bilingual)
Farm Credit Canada
1-888-780-6647
eva.larouche@fcc.ca

* Relevant programs of study include business, communication, computer and office education programs, and differ by institution.

