

2012 Convocation News

His Honour, Col. (Ret'd) the Honourable Donald S. Ethell

Dave Werklund

Dr. Joe Martin

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Dave Werklund is committed to leadership and life-long learning

Canadian entrepreneur, oilfield-industry leader and dedicated philanthropist, David (Dave) P. Werklund developed a can-do attitude from his upbringing on a farm in rural Alberta. He is well known for his commitment to strong leadership principles, life-long learning, and strong values.

Werklund will receive an honorary degree from the University of Calgary at the morning convocation ceremony on June 6.

Werklund and his daughter Deanna established the Werklund Foundation. The foundation partnered with University of Calgary's Faculty of Education to establish a centre to develop and support research, teaching and community service activities focused on leadership training for teachers and for those they teach.

The Werklund Foundation Centre for Youth Leadership Education will be a flagship in Canada in the research and development of programs and initiatives to engage youth of all ages through a variety of means and resources.

"The University of Calgary has a remarkable record of developing and supporting leadership education," says Werklund. "I am pleased to support the centre and the Faculty of Education. There is nothing more important than ensuring young people grow and succeed."

"The Werklund Foundation Centre for Youth Leadership Education is an important new initiative for us," says Dennis Sumara, dean of the Faculty of Education. "The vision of the Werklund Foundation has inspired us to think in new ways about how we can develop a research centre that also is a highly active hub for community, school and university collaborations in the area of youth leadership education."

"To find someone so committed to working with us on youth education is wonderfully gratifying. It energizes us and excites us to know that we're about to embark on such a positive and beneficial collaboration," says Sumara.

Werklund has already fostered projects with students and teachers in the Calgary Board of Education, including the recently confirmed Werklund Foundation's Empowering Minds Youth Leadership Education and the TELUS World of Science's Werklund Foundation Learning & Leadership Centre.

Werklund began his career in 1965 as a production operator and rose in the oilfield industry to become a trusted industry partner. He was a co-founder of Concord Well Servicing, founder of Tervita Corporation (formerly CCS Corporation) and founder of Werklund Capital Corporation.

Werklund recognized and capitalized on the need to address environmental and waste management issues in the oil and gas exploration industry. He was listed by Alberta Venture as one of Alberta's 50 most influential people and honoured by Ernst & Young as Canadian Entrepreneur of the Year.

Werklund and his partner Susan delight in time spent with grandchildren and entertaining family and friends at their summer retreat at Shuswap Lake in British Columbia. World travel is one of their great pleasures.



Dave Werklund will receive an honorary degree on June 6.
Photo courtesy of Dave Werklund



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