

St. Albert site chosen

Alberta's fourth university to be completed by 1973

By WINSTON GERELUK

A fourth university is to be built in Alberta by 1973 and the government has decided on St. Albert as the site.

Minister of Education Robert Clark in a brief entitled "Post-Secondary Education Until 1972" which he presented at a press conference Wednesday, revealed that the government plans to start construction of the new university "immediately, to be completed within three years."

Plans to begin on a new campus followed a decision to place a 25,000 ceiling on enrollment at the U of A, a population mark which the Edmonton campus is expected to reach by 1973.

The location at St. Albert was chosen because of its proximity to metropolitan Edmonton, which has a projected population of "over 600,000 within the next five or ten years." It is expected this city will provide about 70 per cent of the total 5,000 enrollment of the new university.

The other main reason for choosing this site is that Edmonton will be able to provide all but about 15 per cent of the student housing that will be required. To build the new university in Red Deer, for example, would have meant providing housing for over 70 per cent of the students, a task which the government did not want to undertake.

The Education Minister said the cost of the new facilities will be in the "tens of millions," also adding he "will

have to study" the place of this new expenditure in the \$185,000,000 guideline for expenditure that the Alberta government had set for itself earlier.

A Board of Governors will be appointed for the new university "early in 1970" to assume planning duties within "certain government guidelines." The new member to the university family is not expected to develop into a multiversity, but will rather have "unique educational objectives." Its undergraduate programs will probably be limited to faculties in arts, science and education, with studies in the humanities and the social sciences at the graduate level.

The 25,000 ceiling was chosen for the Edmonton campus because, according to Mr. Clark, "this level will permit the most complete use of the land available to the university without unduly taxing public services."

To answer questions on the effects of such a large campus on its students, the report states "depersonalization does not automatically follow from size; and there are good reasons why the modern large university with its many faculties has become typical in North America."

Along with its plans for the new university, the report also reveals government plans to construct a sixth Alberta college, this one in downtown Edmonton, a location "which should facilitate the greatest possible interaction between the college and community."

The college is expected to accommodate about 5,000 students, and "will not duplicate any university courses," but will rather offer one- and two-year diploma courses leading to careers in such fields as secretarial sciences, business administration, and nursing education, as well as high school courses.

According to the brief, the government will also expand the programs and facilities of the Provincial Institutes of Technology, as well as the vocational and agricultural schools.



—Dave Hebditch photo
ROBERT CLARK
... outlines the plans

Students' union official notice

There will be a referendum dealing with SUB expansion on Friday, January 23. All full members of the students' union are eligible to vote. The official wording of the referendum is as follows:

Do you favor an expansion of the Students' Union Building which will require an increase of three dollars (\$3) in students' union fees?

Yes No

—Derek Bulmer
Returning Officer

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