Media release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Luther College receives \$1.75m donation to build new gymnasium

9 October 2013 – Dr Bryan Hillis, president of Regina's Luther College, today announced that Gavin and Shaun Semple have made a major donation of \$1.75 million to build a new, state of the art gymnasium.

"Shaun and I are pleased to provide \$1,750,000 in financial support to Luther College through the Brandt "Thanks A Billion Program". The Semple Family have had a long standing relationship with Luther College beginning in 1959 when I attended the college as a dorm student. Since then eight other members of the Semple family have benefited from the quality education provided by Luther College", said Gavin Semple.

The connection with Luther College and the Thanks A Billion Program is an excellent fit says Semple. "Both Luther College and the Brandt Group of Companies have strong roots in Saskatchewan and a shared vision for the community and our youth". In 2004, Semple was the campaign lead on the former Luther College gymnasium project that led to the larger renewal and expansion initiative. "Gavin's continued support and commitment to the gymnasium was pivotal in moving us forward on this larger project and campaign", says Hillis.

The new gymnasium will be named The Semple Gymnasium and will have seating capacity for 1,000 fans. This will allow Luther to host provincial and national tournaments in many sports, including badminton, volleyball and basketball and increase the size of their annual volleyball tournament from eight teams to sixteen.

President Hillis says "Luther is celebrating 100 years in 2013 and this amazing facility reflects our tradition of excellence, ensuring future generations of Luther students will have a remarkable experience. We are very grateful to Gavin and Shaun for this donation".

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The donation is part of the *A Time To Build* campaign, an ambitious fundraising initiative to raise \$17.3m to build and renew the current campus at 1500 Royal Street. This will include three new classrooms, primarily for fine arts, a student commons and the new gymnasium.

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