



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Leach Foundation Contributes to Gateway to Science, Will Name Lobby

Ninety years after Thomas Leach was inspired to search for oil in North Dakota, his name will be inspiring North Dakotans of all ages to explore science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

A gift of \$500,000 from the Tom and Frances Leach Foundation puts Gateway to Science another step closer to breaking ground in 2019 on a new science center with the Leach name in the lobby entrance. A reception and check presentation will take place at Gateway to Science's current location, in the Tom and Frances Leach High Prairie Arts & Science Complex, on Friday, December 14, at 2:00PM. Clearly, the Foundation is committed to investing in North Dakota's greatest asset - our children.

"We are extremely grateful to the foundation. They have not only put their mark on our future vision, but they've brought us another step closer to realizing our dream of a truly first-class center to inspire tomorrow's scientists," said Beth Demke, Executive Director of Gateway to Science. "I know that Tom Leach would be very proud that his life's work will inspire thousands of young minds for generations to come." Anyone is welcome to join in our investment in the future at <http://www.gatewaytoscience.org/donate>.

"The Board of Directors of the Tom and Frances Leach Foundation is very proud to make this grant to Gateway to Science. This is not just about a new building. It is about sparking the imaginations of young people." said Bill Daniel, president of the Leach Foundation.

The Tom and Frances Leach Foundation, a private, non-profit, charitable organization, promotes the public welfare with private resources. The Foundation has given more than \$15.5 million to organizations, universities and charities over the past 60 years.

The Tom and Frances Leach Foundation is governed by a board, which includes Bill Daniel, president, Bismarck; Don Clement, Bismarck; Brian Bjella, Bozeman, MT; Todd Steinwand, Bismarck; John Roswick, Bismarck; Paul Schliesman, Minneapolis, MN; and Dave Goodin, Bismarck.

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