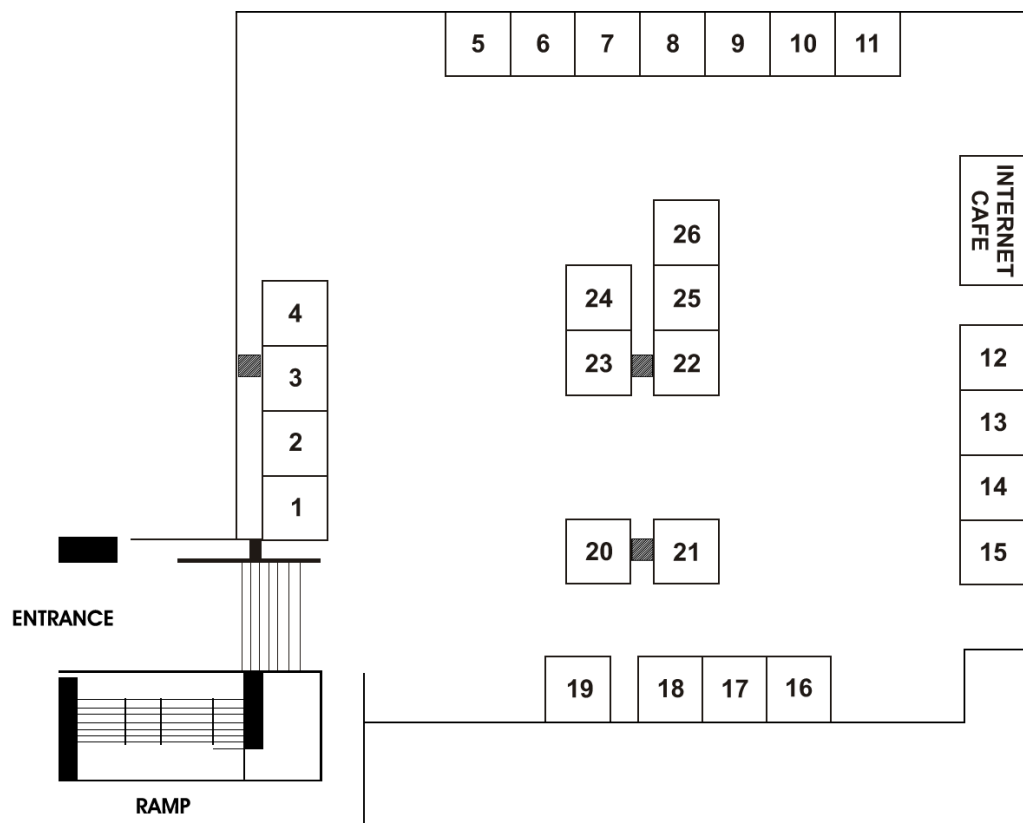


# OECD/Canada/Alberta Conference on E-Learning in Post-Secondary Education: Policies, Practices, and Research

## LIST OF EXHIBITORS



### Booth #1

#### ***Advanced Broadband Enabled Learning (ABEL)***

Advanced Broadband Enabled Learning (ABEL) seeks to improve student achievement and to transform teacher/faculty professional practice through the use of information communications technology. This is achieved through; building collaborative learning communities (administrators, teachers, faculty, pre-service teachers and students); implementing blended learning environments for classrooms, schools and districts; using interactive web-based learning resources; developing sustainable inter-jurisdictional and inter-institutional collaboration; and, understanding institutional change. The ABEL program supports students, teachers, faculty and pre-service teachers by providing access to :

- a distributed learning platform of resources and applications that leverage broadband and other high-speed networks
- professional learning program
- implementation strategies that supports change management, risk-taking and building collaborative cultures
- research and evaluation.

**Company name:** York University

**Website:** <http://www.abelearn.ca>

## **Booth #2**

### ***Blended Learning in Higher Education***

Two blended-learning course redesigns will be displayed. The first example focuses on scientific writing and introduces students to the peer-review model. As part of this redesign, the Learning Commons developed the Peer Review Tool (PRT), a web-based tool that automatically directs the flow of electronic documents through the peer-review process. The revised format has allowed students to spend less time on technical issues and more time interacting with the instructors about specific writing questions. The second example is a redesign of a social work curriculum from an intensive weekend delivery format to a blended delivery format using web-based course tools with one face-to-face meeting per semester. The blended learning format achieves the goal of providing increased access to rural, remote and aboriginal students. It also reduces the delivery costs incurred in complete face-to-face delivery while retaining the sense of community important in the program.

**Company name:** University of Calgary

**Website:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/~natsci/writing/welcome.shtml>, [http://fsw.ucalgary.ca/learn\\_circ/index.htm](http://fsw.ucalgary.ca/learn_circ/index.htm)

## **Booth #3**

### ***Faculty Learning Community for Blended Delivery Project***

The Faculty Learning Community for Blended Delivery is a year-long professional development initiative for Mount Royal faculty who are interested in exploring the use of web technologies for blended delivery. Blended delivery involves the thoughtful integration of classroom-based and technology-mediated instruction in ways that support effective teaching and learning while reducing face-to-face contact time. Over the duration of the program, participants adapt a course of their choosing for blended delivery with support from instructional design staff and technical assistants in the College's Academic Development Centre. Participants meet bi-weekly for a mix of presentations, discussions and 'hands-on' project development. Between face-to-face meetings, use of online discussion and other online activities helps participants to appreciate the experience of students who enroll in blended learning courses. The initiative's "learning community" approach encourages faculty to explore together the myriad ways that technology can be used to enhance teaching and learning in blended learning contexts.

**Company name:** Mount Royal College

**Website:** <http://www.acad.mtroyal.ca/adc/flc/>

## **Booth #4**

### ***NAIT Presents (1) NAIT DATE; (2) Digilearn***

- (1) NAIT DATE - This application of Supernet-connected, videoconference technology will allow us to deliver trades training to apprentice students in their home communities, while they maintain related employment, and complete practical, "hands-on" components - on the job. This project will use Supernet to videoconference and/or webcast theory instruction allowing the student to avoid relocation and temporary living expenses. We will accept students who are registered apprentices, maintaining current employment within the trades of Welder and Electrician.
- (2) Digital Curriculum Database (DCD) - MERLIN, a web-based curriculum development environment helps the user enter information into the DCD. Curriculum is created using MERLIN's "fill-in-the-blank" interface that guides faculty through the instructional design process. The result is instructionally sound, modularized, digital curriculum that is easily delivered in print or within distance learning systems. - ACCREDITATOR, a software application tool, provides self-assessment guidelines for programs seeking external accreditation with organizations such as the Alberta Society of Engineering Technologists (ASET), the Canadian Technology Accreditation Board (CTAB), or the Canadian Medical Association (CMA).

**Company name:** Northern Alberta Institute of Technology

**Website:** <http://www.nait.ab.ca/DigiLEARN/>

## **Booth #5**

### ***MusicPath***

The MusicPath software links digital acoustic pianos over networks so that a pianist actually causes the remote piano keys and pedals to move. Demonstrated between Nova Scotia and Hawaii, Texas, Australia, Vancouver and Germany, the piano to piano demonstration has been lauded as a real breakthrough in music.

**Company name:** Acadia University

**Website:** <http://musicpath.acadiau.ca>

### **Booth #6**

#### ***e-Tourism! Tourisme branché!***

Canadore College, in partnership with Collège Boréal, Northern College, the Canadian Ecology Centre, and Woodland Echoes Resort, has completed a pilot project called e-Tourism! Tourisme branché! This project was made possible with funding support from the Office of Learning Technologies. The e-Tourism! Tourisme branché! program consists of eight modules designed to help Tourism Operators learn how to use the Internet to enhance their business. The independent study modules are offered through the Internet and will take students approximately 10 to 15 hours each to complete.

**Company name:** Canadore College of Applied Arts & Technology

**Website:** <http://www.canadorec.on.ca/>

### **Booth #7**

#### ***SportWeb***

SportWeb has grown from a CANARIE project to a federally incorporated, not-for-profit organization that develops, integrates and pilots and markets technology that helps geographically dispersed sporting organizations and their members to collaborate effectively online in creating, deploying and accessing learning resources. It also provides training and assistance in using that technology effectively.

**Company name:** Nortia Technologies Inc.

**Website:** <http://www.sportweb.ca/content/home.asp>

### **Booth #8**

#### ***Practical Nurse Education-Anytime, Anywhere***

The Practical Nurse Program at NorQuest College is focused on learning anytime and anywhere with supported and accessible web-based enhancements. Learners may interact in an Elluminate LiveÖ presentation, puzzle over a crossword, hear an explanation, read a definition, problem-solve in a case, listen to the correct pronunciation, apply a concept, check a mark, listen to a body sound, answer questions, receive tutorial, ask questions, network with a cohort, discuss an idea, or watch a video clip. Non-threatening self-assessment follows with quizzes and 2000 multiple-choice items with immediate feedback and rationale for the distracters that encourage learners to take charge of their learning.

**Company name:** NorQuest College

**Website:** <http://www.norquest.ca/pnproject/index.htm>

### **Booth #9**

#### ***The Women's Shelter Crisis Worker Certificate Program***

This program was developed as a result of discussions between Portage College and the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters (ACWS) who wanted to enhance the skills of crisis workers in shelters. The program has been designed so that a crisis worker can build on their skills as they work through the program. Successfully completing all ten courses will result in a Crisis Worker Training Certificate and is recognized by Portage College, the ACWS, and Alberta Advanced Education. Eight of the courses in this program can be taken through computer-mediated learning (online). In addition there are two required workshops provided to assist in the learning process and in "tying the pieces together."

**Company name:** Portage College

**Website:** This course is hosted on Web CT

## **Booth #10**

### ***University of the Arctic @ Yukon College***

The University of the Arctic is a cooperative network of universities, colleges, and other organizations committed to higher education and research in the Circumpolar North. Members share resources, facilities, and expertise to build post-secondary education programs that are relevant and accessible to northern students. Currently, UArctic uses "traditional" server-based software for its courses. Yukon College's experiments with Breeze, videoconferencing, and other internet technologies offer exciting possibilities for lowering language and other barriers to effective cooperation and learning.

**Company name:** Yukon College

**Website:** <http://www1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/uarctic/>

## **Booth #12**

### ***BC Commons & Creative Commons Licenses for Sharing and Reuse of Online Learning Resources***

BCcampus <http://www.bccampus.ca> has implemented an open source like approach to the development of online learning, leading to educational resources that are freely shared, reused, modified, and distributed among British Columbia's public post-secondary institutions.

Legal aspects of copyright, distribution, and reuse of the resource are handled using Creative Commons <http://www.creativecommons.org> and a BCcampus created variant called "BC Commons" <http://www.bccampus.ca/Page93.aspx> licenses. Creative Commons shares resources with the world. BC Commons limits sharing to the public post secondary institutions in the province of British Columbia.

One goal is to enable as much reuse as possible and make online learning resources collective works developed collaboratively by professional peers throughout the system. The resulting resources are subject to continuous improvement in a similar fashion to the open source code.

BCcampus has provided \$4.5 million dollars in funding over the past three years for creation of online courses, programs, technologies, services, and learning resources for students in BC's public post-secondary institutions.

**Company name:** BCcampus

**Website:** <http://www.bccampus.ca>

## **Booth #13**

### ***VcAlberta.ca: Online Directory and Portal for Videoconferencing in Alberta's Learning System***

With funding from the Alberta government, the U of L pooled its knowledge and experiences with those of Mount Royal College to create VcAlberta.ca, a videoconferencing support site for the learning system in Alberta. Launched in the fall of 2004, this site was intended to be a primer to build a learning community by engaging those using videoconferencing in the system, and to develop a collection of common best practices. It serves as a central directory of videoconferencing facilities in Alberta's learning system and also features, tips and tricks articles, tools, discussion forums, FAQ's, news, annotated links, research, and documents. VcAlberta.ca is under active development and new content is posted regularly.

**Company name:** University of Lethbridge

**Website:** <http://vcalberta.ca>

## **Booth #14**

### ***Barrier Free E-Learning***

The ATRC has been involved in promoting inclusive access to elearning for more than a decade. It is an international leader in the development of standards and tools that ensure that all potential learners are able to participate fully in computer and Web-based learning activities, including those with disabilities who have traditionally faced barriers when attempting to participate in such activities. Of the many projects undertaken by the ATRC, the ATutor and TILE projects will be demonstrated. ATutor is an open source Learning Content Management System (LCMS) used to develop and deliver online courses. TILE is a learning objects repository and content transformation tool used to develop and archive accessible elearning materials. Both systems adhere to open standards and function together as two key pieces of a Barrier Free Online Learning Environment.

**Company name:** Adaptive Technology Resource Centre (University of Toronto)

**Website:** <http://www.inclusivelearning.ca>

## **Booth #15**

### ***Edusource***

Building an object repository is the first step in online education. Whole curriculums and courses of study can be assembled from the objects in an object repository.

Because of the importance of education for worldwide economic future, building a robust infrastructure for a shared object repository is an important project.

The general vision of the eduSource project was focused on the creation of a network of linked and interoperable learning object repositories across Canada. The project has defined the components of interoperable framework, the web services that will tie them all together and the protocols necessary to allow other institutions to enter into that framework.

Many open source software will be displayed during the event:

- E-rib edusource Repository in a box
- ESE : Edusource repository search portal
- ECL : Edusource communication layer
- Lompad : stand alone metatagging tool
- Paloma : distributed user friendly Learning object repository browser

**Company name:** Cogigraph

**Website:** <http://edusource.liceftelug.quebec.ca/ese/en/index.jsp>

## **Booth #16**

### **Contact North/*Contact Nord*, Canada's Largest Distance Education Network**

Contact North/*Contact Nord*- A 20 Year Canadian Collaboration in Distance Education

- established in 1986, a unique, ongoing collaboration in Northern Ontario currently between 84 small and remote communities, 3 Ontario universities, 7 Ontario colleges, and the Government of Ontario, Canada.
- the only means of access to full and part-time academic programs for some 5,000 disadvantaged adult learners dispersed over 874,741 square kilometres – the size of Germany and France combined – without having to leave their communities.
- utilization of a complementary set of educational technologies including audioconference, videoconference, and e-learning platforms to support the flexible distance delivery of 731 credit courses and 14,000 course registrations in 2003/04.
- part of an economic development strategy for an area of climatic extremes, small and isolated communities tied to primary resource industries such as mining and forestry, relatively high unemployment, emigration of young people to southern cities, and limited availability of broadband infrastructure.
- perhaps the only distance education and training network of its kind in the world providing services in French and English to a multicultural population of which 30% is Francophone and 22% is Aboriginal. Contact North/*Contact Nord* – Access Through Innovation

**Company name:** Contact North/*Contact Nord*

**Website:** <http://www.cnorth.edu.on.ca>

## **Booth #17**

### ***eCampusAlberta***

eCampusAlberta is a consortium of fifteen colleges and technical institutes established to facilitate increased access to high quality online learning opportunities. The consortium is developing an innovative online learning initiative that is an example of unprecedented collaboration in Alberta. The inception of eCampusAlberta has contributed greatly to increasing flexibility for learners and creating a vehicle for inspiring collaboration across the province. The mandate of eCampusAlberta is to increase learner access to online courses, programs and learner support services. Each member institution develops, contributes, and offers its respective online courseware as well as supports learners in courseware provided by the other members' institutions. Using a partnership model, the institutions can be Lead (offer the online course and instruction) or a Partner (support learners who have chosen to take a course offered by another consortium member).

**Company name:** eCampusAlberta

**Website:** <http://www.ecampusalberta.ca>

## **Booth #18**

### ***Making Education Accessible***

Alberta-North is a unique partnership of eight post-secondary institutions collaborating to provide quality educational opportunities to adult learners in the north. The eight institutional partners are:

- Athabasca University, AB
- Keyano College, AB
- Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT), AB
- Northern Lakes College, AB
- Grande Prairie Regional College, AB
- Portage College, AB
- Aurora College, NWT
- College of New Caledonia, BC

In order to increase and improve access to education and training opportunities for learners, the partners have established a network of 86 Community Access Point sites (CAP's). Each CAP site is equipped with a variety of educational technologies and learning resources and the staff assists with registration and with access to advising, counseling, and other student support services.

**Company name:** Alberta-North  
**Website:** <http://www.abnorth.ab.ca>

## **Booth #19**

### ***CANARIE***

CANARIE is Canada's advanced Internet organization, a not-for-profit corporation funded by Industry Canada to facilitate the development and use of next-generation research networks and the applications and services that run on them. CANARIE promotes collaboration among key sectors and partners with innovators around the world, and in so doing stimulates innovation and growth and helps to deliver social, cultural, and economic benefits to all Canadians. CA\*net 4, Canada's national research and innovation network, is developed and operated by CANARIE. CANARIE positions Canada as the global leader in advanced networking, and is supported by its members, project partners, and the Government of Canada.

**Company name:** CANARIE  
**Website:** <http://www.canarie.ca>

## **Booth #20**

### ***Alberta SuperNet in Education***

An overview description of the Alberta SuperNet project will be displayed and live demos connecting to the network, if possible from the conference floor, will be conducted. SuperNet broadband access is providing enhanced learning opportunities to the education system throughout Alberta.

**Company name:** Alberta Education

## **Booth #21**

### ***e-Learning Accelerator Project***

Through funding received from Alberta Learning for the e-Learning Accelerator Project, Athabasca University has been developing and enhancing the top 80% of its undergraduate courses, and establishing a student portal. The project's first task was to define what is meant by an online course. Defining Online Courses at Athabasca University identifies the components that make up four types of online course: Functional, Distributional, Interactional, and Communal. The course development process has been refined to use a standardized web page template. All courses on the e-Learning Accelerator list of top enrolment courses that are not yet online are in the process of being put into the template. The student portal, "myAU," was launched in October 2004 to serve as the single entry point for all AU students, and as a gateway to all online course features. In addition, student services are being developed, redeveloped or enhanced appropriately for delivery through the portal.

**Company name:** Athabasca University  
**Website:** <http://www.athabascau.ca/vpa/accelerator>

### **Booth #22**

#### ***Collaboration for Online Higher Education and Research***

COHERE is an alliance of leading Canadian research universities, working together to integrate online learning with our research culture and values. The overarching goal of the COHERE Project is to ensure that students engage in a first-rate university experience, characterized by rigour, scholarship, and opportunities for the richest diversity in learning, both on campus and through the Internet. Through this blend of experiences they will become increasingly effective online learners, able to engage in inquiry-based learning, critical thinking, and problem-solving.

**Company name:** COHERE  
**Website:** <http://www.cohere.ca>

### **Booth #23**

#### ***Northern Opportunities Website Project***

Northern Opportunities was initiated by industry to address the increasing demand for a well-educated and skilled workforce. It is an innovative northeastern partnership of the Fort Nelson, Peace River North, and Peace River South school districts, Northern Lights College, B.C.I.T., First Nations, industry and community with a common goal: to provide our young people with a seamless learning pathway from secondary school to post-secondary trades/technology training and careers. The primary target audiences are: youth presently in the school system, youth who have dropped out of school and may benefit from an alternate educational delivery model, educators, parents, and industry/employers. The main objectives are to provide access to alternate delivery options for trades and technology training, act as a brokerage for people interested in trades and technology, maintain a clearinghouse of information, and promote partnerships among post-secondary institutions, School Districts, First Nations and industry in northeast BC.

**Company name:** UFCW Local 247 Training and Education Centre  
**Website:** [www.NorthernOpportunities.bc.ca](http://www.NorthernOpportunities.bc.ca)

### **Booth #24**

#### ***National Credit Review Service Project and ePortfolio***

Campus Canada's credit assessment service for workplace education (National Credit Review Service pilot project) has been established as a comprehensive process, designed to determine if courses offered by employers and associations can be granted post-secondary credit equivalency. Campus Canada's member colleges and universities will accept these credits into their diploma or degree programs, where relevancy exists. All Campus Canada programs are delivered via distance, ensuring that workplace learners can access the program of their choice wherever they live and work. Campus Canada's ePortfolio and Record of Learning provide adult learners with a simple solution to the organization of their academic, workplace and non-formal learning experiences.

**Company name:** Campus Canada  
**Website:** <http://www.campuscanada.ca>

### **Booth #25**

#### ***Canadian Virtual University-Université virtuelle canadienne***

Canadian Virtual University-Université virtuelle canadienne (CVU-UVC Inc) is a consortium of Canada's leading universities in distance and online learning. Together, they offer students around the world a collective catalogue of over 2000 courses and 250 complete programs. Participating universities accept each other's courses for transfer credit so students can mix and match courses to complete a full degree, diploma, or certificate completely online or through distance education. Students save fees when they take courses from more than one university. Participating universities share marketing costs, administrative procedures, student advising, and best practices related to distance and online university education.

**Company name:** Canadian Virtual University  
**Website:** <http://www.cvu-uvc.ca>

## **Booth #26**

### **Bridging the Divides**

The project involves a three-year program of action in one rural BC region and one coastal BC region to build local capacity and unleash the full potential of communities to transform their own conditions by investing in lifelong learning, information technologies and innovative Community Economic Development (CED).

The Project is lead by Simon Fraser University in partnership with North Island College, Greater Trail Community Skills Centre, Telus, University of Victoria, Chief Dan George Centre for Advanced Education and others.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- A. To implement and assess the effectiveness of new practices in lifelong learning, using Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to promote participatory involvement in Community and Economic Development (CED); and
- B. To model evidence-based planning activities that have clear measures by which to track change, set benchmarks or target for change, and identify outcomes and their causes.
- C. To accelerate the development of high speed Internet to and information technology applications that impact Community and Economic Development within participating communities.

Company name: Simon Fraser University  
Website: <http://www.bridgingthedivides.ca/>