

1. How much does it cost to participate?

VROC programming is available free of charge to a large number of schools in Ontario and Alberta. Please contact a VROC Program Coordinator (VROCPC@pirweb.org) to see if your board is on our list!

2. Who funds VROC?

Funding for VROC is provided by governments, post-secondary institutions and private industry. Visit our website for a complete list of sponsors -- <http://www.vroc.ca/pir/en/sponsors/>

3. What does VROC use for video communication? Is it like Skype?

VROC uses several tools for video communication. Some are standards-based (H.323 and SIP compliant) and some are household names such as Skype. The VROC team works with IT departments to implement a solution that works best in the end users environment. Whatever the technical tool, our ability to capture learning opportunities (with the consent of participants) that can be shared with students in other classes and all students in Canada via VROC Video is one of the objectives of the VROC experience, regardless of the technical tool.

4. What is VROC Video?

An online repository of STEM related educational video produced by VROC and educational partners such as The Canadian Medical Hall of Fame and Alberta Innovates Technology Futures -- <http://www.vroc.ca/video/>

5. Do the experts speak English and French?

The VROC expert database, ExpertBook includes researchers that are bilingual, or speak either official language. If you are having difficulty finding an expert on a topic in a given language, please contact a VROC Program Coordinator (VROCPC@pirweb.org) and they will help facilitate a connection.

6. What is ExpertBook?

An online searchable database featuring VROC experts. This database is searchable only by teachers signed up for VROC and VROC experts. Teachers can search by topic(s) and course code(s) to identify experts and bring them into their classrooms.

7. Is the program offered to elementary school students and secondary school students?

VROC video conferencing programs are targeted toward students grades K-12.

8. Is the program as popular with elementary students as it is with high school students?

Students of all ages get excited about VROC programming. The type of connection can be pre-arranged to meet the knowledge level and interest area of your class. If you're looking for different ways teachers are using VROC for students of all ages, have a look at the Partners In Research blog -- <http://www.vroc.ca/pir/en/pir-blog/>.