

Virtual Learning Strategy Technical Briefing

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Land Acknowledgement

eCampusOntario's offices in downtown Toronto are located on the traditional territory of many nations including the **Mississaugas of the Credit**, the **Anishnabeg**, the **Chippewa**, the **Haudenosaunee** and the **Wendat** peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis.

In this virtual space we are all convening from different places. This is one of the things that makes the online environment special. Using the chat window, you can acknowledge the traditional territories from which you join by referencing this link:

<https://native-land.ca/territory-acknowledgement/>

Series of Technical Briefings for sector engagement



Objectives of Technical Briefings

Familiarize sector leaders with the Virtual Learning Strategy

- > VLS Pillars and Principles
- > Funding categories
- > Process and timeline

Outline our role in supporting you

Gain input on planned supports and answer questions

Three Pillars



Being the Future

Provide sector supports to drive a continued co-existence with hybrid learning



Being a lifelong learner

Support education and retraining, reskilling and upskilling



Being a global leader

Realize international markets for Made-in-Ontario online PSE and educational technology

Three Principles



Collaborative

The VLS will prioritize collaboration for sector transformation that impacts all institutions



Learner-Driven

The VLS will drive virtual learning excellence for all learners in Ontario, now and into the future



Digital by Design

The VLS supports the development of online content and supports that are digital by design

Funding Categories

People	
Digital Education and Transformation	\$1.1 million
Content	
Digital Content	\$2.75 million
Digital Content XR Projects	\$1 million
Capacity	
Digital Capacity - Targeted Supports	\$1.5 million
Digital Capacity - CVLP Support	\$1 million
Digital Capacity - International Marketing	\$400 thousand

Project Innovation: Building on Success

Project teams are encouraged to review the virtual learning content created through the first round of VLS EOI funding (released in January 2021) and to utilize, reuse, adapt and otherwise use this content in submissions for this second round of VLS funding. Submissions are to avoid duplication of these projects.

First Round Results of \$50M Virtual Learning Strategy EOI

Funded Projects

<https://vls.ecampusontario.ca/vls-1/>

Back to the VLS website

Virtual Learning Strategy Projects

ecampus Ontario | Ontario

Clear Filters Total Results 395

Keyword search "Project title" or "Project Description"

Institutions engaged as lead or collaborator

All

Tranche

All

Project Type

All

Discipline

All

Subject

All

Tranche	Project Type	Project Title	Lead Institution Name	All Collaborators	Total Budget
Content	Create a New Open Educational Resource (OER)	Write it Again OER	Durham College		\$25,000
Content	Create a New Online Course	Wound Care for Nurses, Physicians and Allied Health Online Post-Secondary Course for Delivery on OntarioLearn	Sault College	Lakehead University, Laurentian University, Queen's University	\$87,480
Content	Create New Simulation, Serious Game or XR Experience	WebXR Exhibition and Critique Studio: Browser-based XR environment for exhibition and critique of undergraduate and graduate studio projects	OCAD University	York University	\$89,582
Content	Create a New Online Course	Weaving Indigenous perspectives and educational approaches into an online entrepreneurship course	University of Ottawa		\$74,915

Project Description

Please click a project above to view the description

Discipline

Please click a project above to view the discipline

Subject

Please click a project above to view the subject

How to use guide

This dashboard was created by Data Science Interns at eCampusOntario during Fall 2021

FUNDING CATEGORIES

Digital Content

Development and adoption of a portfolio of high-quality online materials at Ontario postsecondary institutions in English and other languages (for example, French, Indigenous); high-quality virtual simulations and/or lab content to reduce the strain on campus space and infrastructure and enable more flexible delivery to attract new markets for online learning in Ontario complete with learner wrap around supports

Sample content

- Creation of new online courses (\$75,000)
- Creation of new virtual education resource (\$25,000)
- Adaption of an existing open educational resource (OER) (\$15,000)
- Creation of a new simulation, serious game or XR (AR/VR) experience (\$75,000)
- Create learner wraparound supports for virtual learning success (\$25,000)

Top-Up Funding (15k, select up to two)

- Micro-credential
- Sector wide impact
- Learner engagement
- Employer partnership
- Connectivity options
- Translation

All digital content will be uploaded to the eCampusOntario virtual library

FUNDING CATEGORIES

Digital Content - XR Projects

Provide postsecondary institutions with resources to access Ontario-made educational technology to produce high quality virtual learning content using XR, and to conduct evaluation with learners and faculty.

- Projects can test technologies and provide support for wider market distribution while producing content for use in Ontario postsecondary institutions. Technologies should be at a sufficient stage (TRL 7 or greater) in order to pilot test or otherwise deploy in an Ontario institution.
- Funding of up to \$150,000 is available
 - Prototype testing (TRL 7) (\$25,000 - \$50,000)
 - Technology demonstration (TRL 8) (\$50,000 - \$100,000)
 - Pilot and market planning (TRL 9): (\$100,000 - \$150,000)
- Industry partners are required to provide a 1:1 match for grants, in cash or a combination of cash and in-kind contributions.
- Pilot testing or deployment should include appropriate evaluation so as to provide the company with pedagogical proof-points for developing markets for the company's technology.

Digital Capacity - Targeted Supports

Support institutions with low capacity to produce high quality virtual learning through funding to hire additional staff on a project-based or full-time basis to support the development of virtual learning materials

Funding can support:

- Instructional Designers, multimedia developers, Project Managers
- AODA compliance and accessibility experts
- Virtual learning content translation and copy editing
- Learning technology support and advanced LMS experience
- Other supports directly contributing to the development or distribution of virtual learning materials
- Funding to hire co-op students, work study students or other student positions
- Other supports as needed: Other learning design and development resources not captured in the capacity areas above

Digital Capacity - CVLP Support

Support institutions with low capacity to produce high quality virtual learning through vouchers for the Central Virtual Learning Platform (CVLP)

The Central Virtual Learning Platform (CVLP) provides member institutions with supplemental design and production capacity to produce high quality virtual learning content, by way of connecting members to services including:

- Instructional Designers, multimedia developers
- Media production
- AODA compliance and accessibility experts
- Virtual learning content translation and copy editing
- Learning technology support and advanced LMS experience
- Other supports directly contributing to the development or distribution of virtual learning materials

<https://vls.ecampusontario.ca/cvlp/>

Digital Capacity - International Marketing

Support for continued development of sector-wide international marketing initiatives that promote Ontario as a leader in high-quality online education.

A key objective is to promote equitable opportunities for all postsecondary institutions to realize international student recruitment to Ontario.

- Applicants will be expected to provide a clear summary of their international marketing strategy, including target markets, expected outcomes and detail their cross-sector collaboration plan.
- Marketing and recruitment initiatives should demonstrate how they will leverage recent investments in virtual learning content and digital delivery
- Funding of up to \$400,000 is available. Applicants can apply for all or a portion of this.
- All applications will be expected to provide a budget justification that explains how the marketing activities will benefit the overall sector.

Digital Education and Transformation

Invest in people to be global leaders in virtual learning, inspire their colleagues, and be the best educators in the global PSE marketplace

Not distributed via EOI

Four inter-related initiatives to support digital transformation of Ontario PSE

Establish a peer review model for VLS-funded materials

- Establish a peer evaluation process, plus stipends for faculty member to facilitate peer reviews

Virtual Learning Fellows/Mentors

- Programming and facilitation support to the sector via secondments for faculty and students

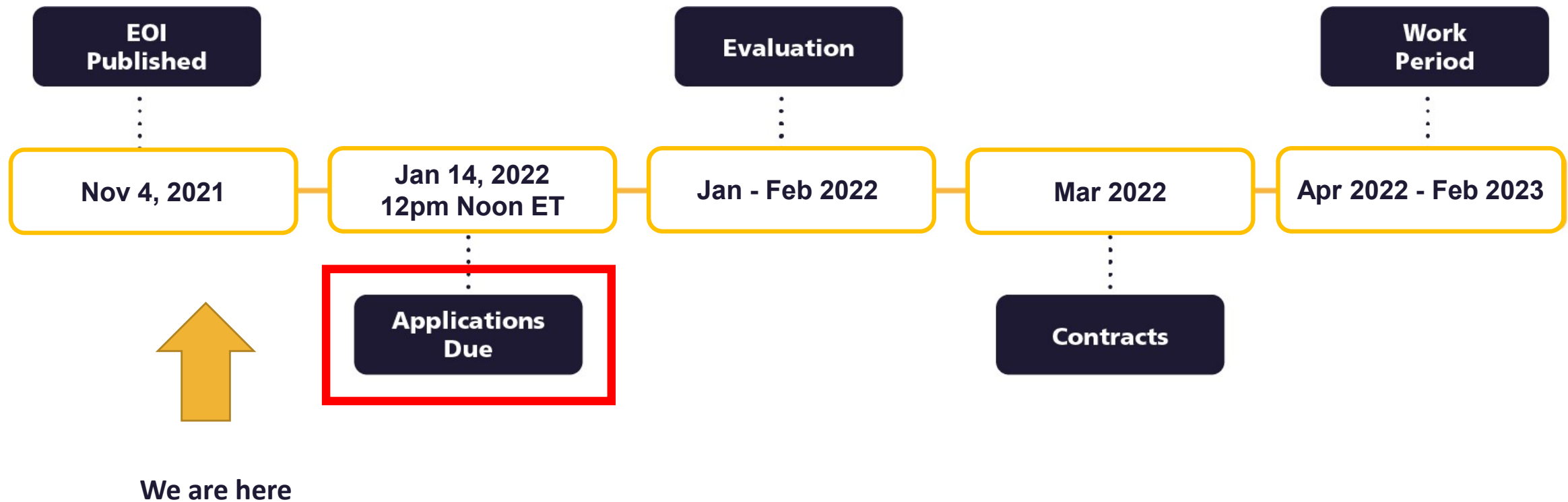
Enhanced Professional Development for Faculty

- Professional development programs co-designed with the sector and delivered through Ontario Extend

Supporting digital education excellence with reviews of educational technology

- Supporting virtual learning and digital transformation

High Level Timeline



Virtual Learning Advisory Committee



eCampusOntario has assembled a group of experts to support in the design and administration of the VLS. The Virtual Learning Advisory Committee (VLAC) supports eCampusOntario in the implementation of Ontario's Virtual Learning Strategy (VLS) by providing advice and support for the allocation of virtual learning supports funding for the post-secondary education system in Ontario.

VLAC provides strategic implementation expertise in:

- Sector-specific knowledge
- Expertise in systemic supports for virtual learning
- First-hand experience with teaching and learning online
- Educational technology, startup or industry engagement
- Management of granting programs and familiarity with best practices
- Industry engagement and educational policy
- Familiarity and commitment to Equity, Decolonization, Diversity and Inclusion

The Virtual Learning Advisory Committee



Paula Allen



Dominique Bérubé



Mary Burgess



Matthew Collingridge



Robert Luke (Chair)



Alex Morris



Ken Steele



Kory Wilson

OUR ROLE

We Are Here to Support You!

eCampusOntario is here to support the postsecondary sector in responding to the Virtual Learning Strategy.

Our role:

- Provide orientation and support for the sector through Technical Briefings
- Draw on VLAC expertise to administer efficient and transparent funding distribution process
- Support the execution of project work
- Work with and draw on sector progress to communicate systemic VLS impact



Discussion

