eCampusOntario Digital Transformation (Dx) Guides

Expand Open Education

Adapt, Adopt, and Create Open Educational Resources

What is the digital transformation of higher education?

eCampusOntario members are transforming higher education. With eCampusOntario, Ontario colleges, universities, and Indigenous Institutes are driving innovation in the higher education sector, using digital technologies to redefine how higher education delivers value to learners.

The results are in. eCampusOntario and its members are using technology to empower trailblazers, improve learner experiences, strengthen resilience to sustain growth across the sector and prepare the workforce of the future to thrive.

Why do higher education institutions need to expand Open Education?

Open education for all.

eCampusOntario members have been moving higher education out into the open.

Open Educational Resources (OER) are free or low-cost materials created to be available in the public domain or under an open license for broad use by learners and educators across the sector.

Open Education (OE) is a philosophy that removes barriers and increases the accessibility of education, often using digital technologies. By adopting an OE approach, educators create educational materials that are publicly available to use widely at no or low cost.

OE supports fair and just access to education. OE helps all people access the same high-quality educational opportunities and resources, beginning to level the playing field as learners pursue their studies.

By supporting Open Education, eCampusOntario members are increasing social equity.

Ontario colleges, universities and Indigenous Institutes are broadening learner access to and participation in higher education while they use the latest digital technologies to enrich learning resources and experiences.

Educators can use, adapt, adopt, and create OER, accelerating their use of digital resources. Using OER, educators are shaping learning experiences that support inclusive and accessible institutional policies for digital learning.

Use, Adapt, Adopt, and Create OER.

Educators can adapt OER to local needs, adopt OER in educational programming, or recreate OER with revisions to uphold OER quality and relevance over time.

Ontario colleges, universities and Indigenous institutes created 1361 resources awaiting you in the eCampusOntario Open Library.

Ontario colleges, universities and Indigenous institutes created 4,562 activities available now in the eCampusOntario H5P Studio.

Increase the affordability of higher education.

Higher education becomes more affordable as educators choose OER. Any high fees for required copyrighted materials, such as mandatory textbook fees, are reduced. By removing barriers, learners can access and use OER from the start, improving early engagement with the educational content and increasing their likelihood of continuing their studies through to completion.

⚡ Improve learner engagement.

OER include rich multi-media and readily-available extended reality (XR) simulations. With state-of-the-art OER available, educators can shorten the timeline to adopt new technologies while increasing learner access to proven, up-to-date digital learning methods. Higher education institutions can efficiently integrate OER, including innovative approaches to teaching and learning in real-time.

☺ Increase accessibility in higher education.

Access educator-developed resources that use emerging technologies with new accessibility features and functionality to remove barriers. Learners with different abilities can use these OER, increasing the learner's probability of success.
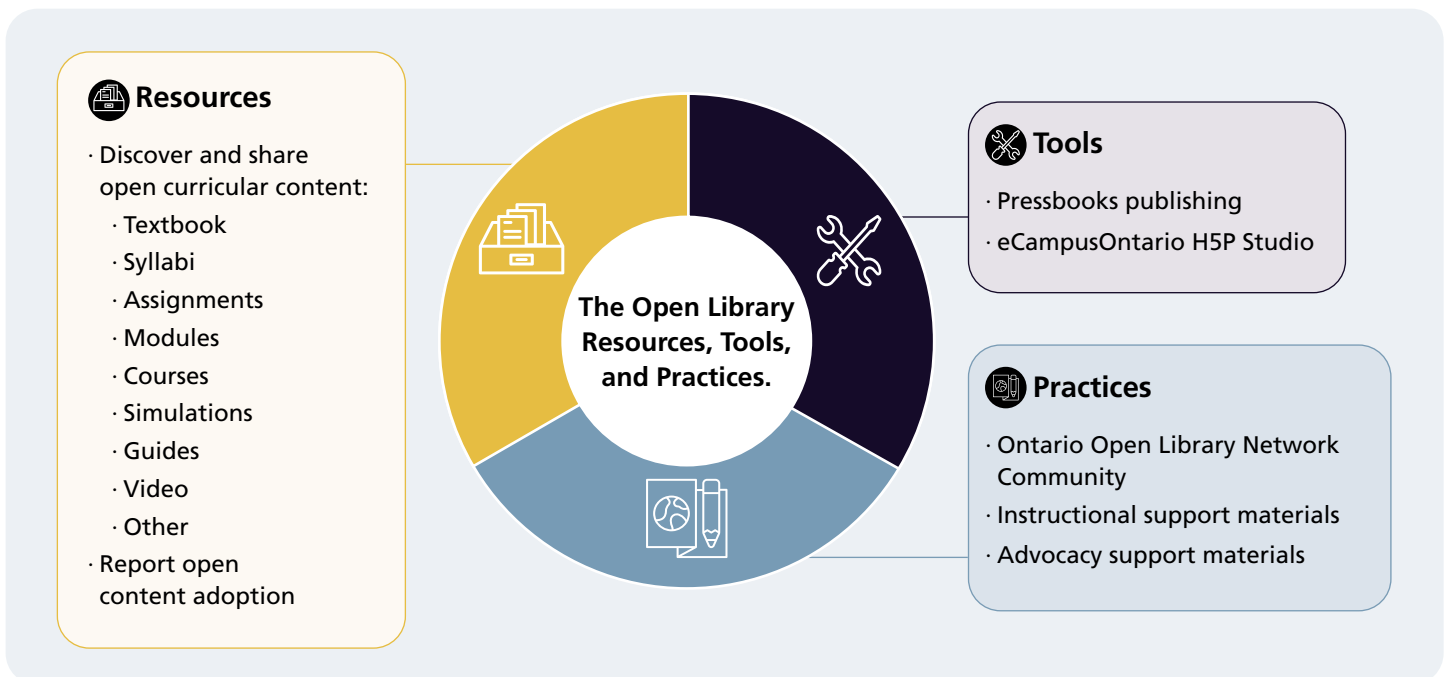
🏅 Access high-quality resources.

Qualified subject matter experts across Ontario are weighing in and upholding the quality of the eCampusOntario OER collection through rigorous peer review. With ready access to the resources, educators can adapt OER, supplement or customize resources for context and maintain OER quality and relevance over time.

🖥 Empower educators with new digital skills.

Educators that create OER are trailblazers who use digital technologies that introduce new approaches to teaching and learning. Academic teams can share their experiences and learn from one another in the eCampusOntario Open Ontario Library Network.

How can eCampusOntario support your Open Education journey?

Resources

· Discover and share open curricular content:
  · Textbook
  · Syllabi
  · Assignments
  · Modules
  · Courses
  · Simulations
  · Guides
  · Video
  · Other
· Report open content adoption

The Open Library Resources, Tools, and Practices.

Tools

· Pressbooks publishing
· eCampusOntario H5P Studio

Practices

· Ontario Open Library Network Community
· Instructional support materials
· Advocacy support materials

🔍 Find.

Ontario colleges, universities and Indigenous Institutes have created close to 1,400 digital learning, teaching and research materials in the Open Library and over 4,500 activities in the eCampusOntario H5P studio readily available for you and your academic teams.

≣ Review OER.

Join other qualified subject matter experts across the sector in eCampusOntario communities and review OER in our collection. eCampusOntario publishes the reviews in the Open Library to be publicly available under a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Derivative (CC-BY-ND) 4.0 license. Start an OER review here.

🎯 Adapt.

Educators and academic teams can adapt OER, customizing the resources to match their teaching style, better support the needs of learners, and address the local context. Adapting an existing resource can keep information current or enhance content with new supplementary or multimedia material. Explore information about academic teams that help adapt OER.

🗗 Integrate.

For a limited time, educators may be eligible for honorariums or team grants to adopt and adapt OER. Take part in the Integrating OER Program here. Start an OER review here. eCampusOntario publishes the reviews in the Open Library to be publicly available under a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Derivative (CC-BY-ND) 4.0 license.

📘 Publish.

eCampusOntario offers members free access to tools that support academic teams in their efforts to find, create, adapt, and adopt OER. eCampusOntario has the tools and technologies for you to help.

H5P Studio: Create, share, and discover interactive learning objects in the eCampusOntario H5P Studio, an open-source platform to help authors create and adapt interactive content. Find out more about H5P here.

Pressbooks: Create or adapt interactive and multimedia content. Create OER as a textbook using the eCampusOntario Pressbooks publishing platform and export the OER in various digital formats.

The Open Library welcomes original or adapted open resources for Ontario postsecondary settings. Learn how to submit an OER to the Open Library here. Do you have an OER recommendation for the eCampusOntario collection? Share your Open Library recommendation with us here. If you use OER, let us know!

🔗 Connect.

Join the Ontario Open Library Network (OOLN), a Community of Practice powered by eCampusOntario using Slack and SharePoint to steward the growth of OE. The OOLN is a space for librarians, faculty, students, instructional designers, and educational technologists interested in OE to exchange ideas and access shared resources.

📢 Share.

eCampusOntario brings together colleagues in higher education to share experiences and strengthen education-industry connections for faster workforce development and job placement. Sign up for updates on eCampusOntario webinars, workshops, or events and dive into emerging technologies, labour market analysis and approaches being considered or used in program development across the sector.

"Open Education aims to widen access and participation for everyone by removing barriers and making learning accessible, abundant, and customizable."
~ European Commission Science Hub (2023)

Need support?
eCampusOntario can help. Contact us to find out more about how eCampusOntario can help enable your Dx journey.

Contact us.   digitalcampus.ca

eCampus Ontario