eCampusOntario Digital Transformation (Dx) Guides

May 2023

Empower Digital Leaders

Engage Academic Teams with Professional Development

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 empower digital leaders?

Digital leaders are showing the way.

Ontario postsecondary institutions are at the forefront of digital learning. With the support of eCampusOntario, Ontario's colleges, universities, and Indigenous Institutes are accelerating the transformation of higher education.

From differentiated learning opportunities to online assessments and technical supports, academic teams are using technology to improve learner participation, representation, and engagement. Considering new pedagogies, data, and evidence, Ontario's colleges, universities, and Indigenous Institutes are showcasing what's possible.

Support your digital leaders in today's evolving digital landscape.

Educators are using technology to meet the needs of an increasingly diverse and digitally aware student population. Digital leaders across Ontario postsecondary institutions are integrating more effective teaching and learning methods and capabilities, using technology to create dynamic learning experiences to meet the needs of all learners.

Investments in tools, technologies and professional development support the digital leaders who will accelerate the digital transformation of higher education. eCampusOntario can help.
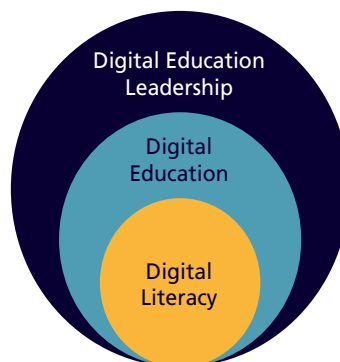
Greater choice and flexibility.

Faculty, and staff of postsecondary institutions agree that learners want greater choice and flexibility in how they access their learning and more use of digital resources and technology in their courses (CDLRA, 2022).

"Every student can learn, just not on the same day, or the same way."
~ George Evans

Prepare educators today.

Digital transformation requires agile and flexible leaders at all levels of the organization. Supporting digital leaders increases the quality, equity, accessibility, and engagement of digital learning experiences. Ensure your digital leaders can foster a culture of innovation and inspire action. eCampusOntario has the resources, programs, and services to support you and the digital leaders rising at your institution.

Adapted from:
https://jl4d.org/index.php/ejl4d/article/view/390/450

Digital Education Leadership

Digital Education

Digital Literacy

How can **eCampusOntario help empower your digital leaders?**

Keep interest in digital learning burning bright. eCampusOntario has gathered resources to support teaching and learning for the future. Engage your academic teams with eCampusOntario professional development, collaboration with experts across the sector, and the discovery and experimentation of educational technology.

Learn.

The *Ontario Extend Empowered Educator micro-credential* is a flexible, stackable, self-paced online professional development program for educators. With the completion of each module, educators are awarded digital badges. Upon completing all six modules, participants achieve the *Empowered Educator micro-credential* certificate to recognize their achievements. Educators across the province can participate, share a new resource, and showcase how to best use the resource in digital learning experiences. Watch the Ontario Extend promotional video to join in. Find all the activities from the Ontario Extend modules here with instructions, resources and sample responses or add to the Ontario Extend Toolkit here.

Register your interest in the *eCampusOntario Dx Leadership micro-credential.* Administrators, faculty and staff are welcome to participate in the professional development program to advance their understanding and lead Dx across the institution. Participants can progress through five flexible, stackable, asynchronous competency-based online modules to achieve the *Dx Leadership micro-credential* certificate.

Endorse.

Postsecondary institutions across the province have integrated eCampusOntario professional development into their *People Plans*. Review the foundational *Ontario Extend Empowered Educator micro-credential module outcomes and competencies here* to customize a professional development pathway for continuous learning and development at your institution.

Since 2017, eCampusOntario has engaged over 1,200 educators to enhance digital fluency for teaching through the Ontario Extend professional development program.

Discover and experiment.

The eCampusOntario EdTech Sandbox provides an online destination for educators to explore educational tools, technologies, and services. Ontario's higher education institutions can join the Sandbox to explore, test, and pilot educational technologies in a risk-free environment. The EdTech Sandbox equips people and institutions with the knowledge and expertise of technology-enabled teaching and learning tools to design their next generation digital learning experiences.

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.

"Through each post or activity that I read (or watched), I could feel the care that these educators have for their learners, and it makes me so proud to be a part of such an amazing community! I'm truly grateful to have learned alongside and from everyone throughout my journey!"

~ Kelly Brennan, Lakehead University

"As I start out in my teaching journey, the Empowered Educator program has provided an invaluable foundation. The structure of the modules allowed for practice, sharing and feedback that encouraged the opportunity to engage and experiment with new ideas and technology. I look forward to moving forward with the tools and techniques that will help me move forward as an educator and a learner."

~ Lorinda Seward, Fleming College

"I feel the Ontario Extend program has provided me with valuable teaching practices, knowledge by exploring new & innovative teaching pedagogy, as well as reflecting on current tools & technology being used and how we can build and continue to deliver what the students need and want. I have a better well-rounded sense of confidence when it comes to teaching faculty and maintaining online programs now due to the full Empowered Educator program."

~ Angie Covey, St. Lawrence College

"Everything about the modules aligned to skills I could immediately use. I was motivated in a time where teaching had moved mostly to virtual learning, and engaging students in their own learning was important to me. If you're wondering about whether the investment in this micro-credential is worth your time and effort, my response is a resounding YES!"

~ Sheryl Third, Fanshawe College

Sign up for updates

ONTARIO EXTEND | Dx | ONTARIO EXCHANGE | EDTECH SANDBOX

Need support?

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

Contact us. **digitalcampus.ca**

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