

Lifelong Learning in Post Secondary Institutions: *A Canadian Context and Perspective*

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AGENDA

- Broad Canadian Context
- Balance: University Supply versus Market Demand
- Institutional Requirements for Lifelong Learning
- Societal and Educational Pre-requisites

Broad Canadian Context

PSE in Canada

10 Provinces

3 Territories

~100 Degree
Granting
Universities

~100 Colleges

Thousands of
Private Colleges



Map courtesy: Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada website <http://www.aucc.ca>



8 Goals Identified

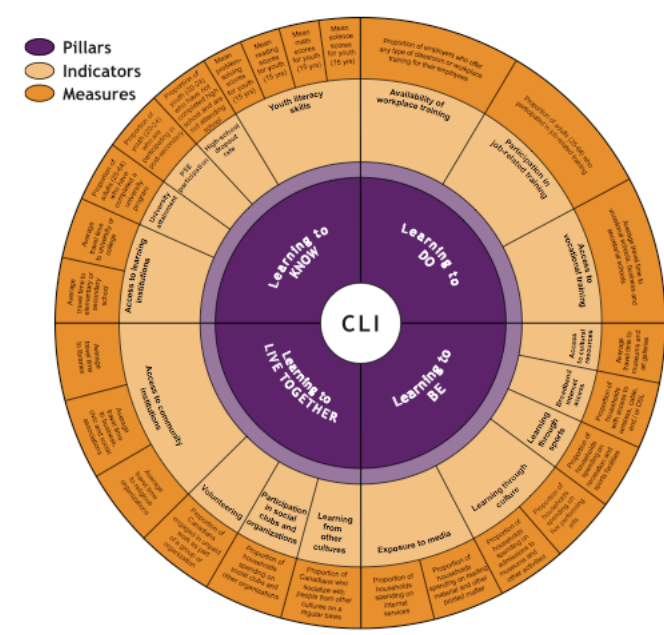
1. A skilled and adaptable workforce to meet the human resource needs of the country
2. Capacity for innovation, knowledge creation, and knowledge transfer
3. Active, healthy citizenry
4. Quality PSE and training
5. Access for all Canadians
6. Participation and success of under-represented groups
7. Lifelong learning
8. Affordable and sustainable PSE and training



Composite Learning Index

- Learning to Know
- Learning to Do
- Learning to Be
- Learning to Live with Others

2009 COMPOSITE LEARNING INDEX



What does Lifelong Learning in Canadian Universities look like?

- Degree (Undergrad, Grad)
- Credit
- Non-credit
- Certificate/ Professional Development
- Face-to-Face / online

Balance: University Supply versus Market Demand

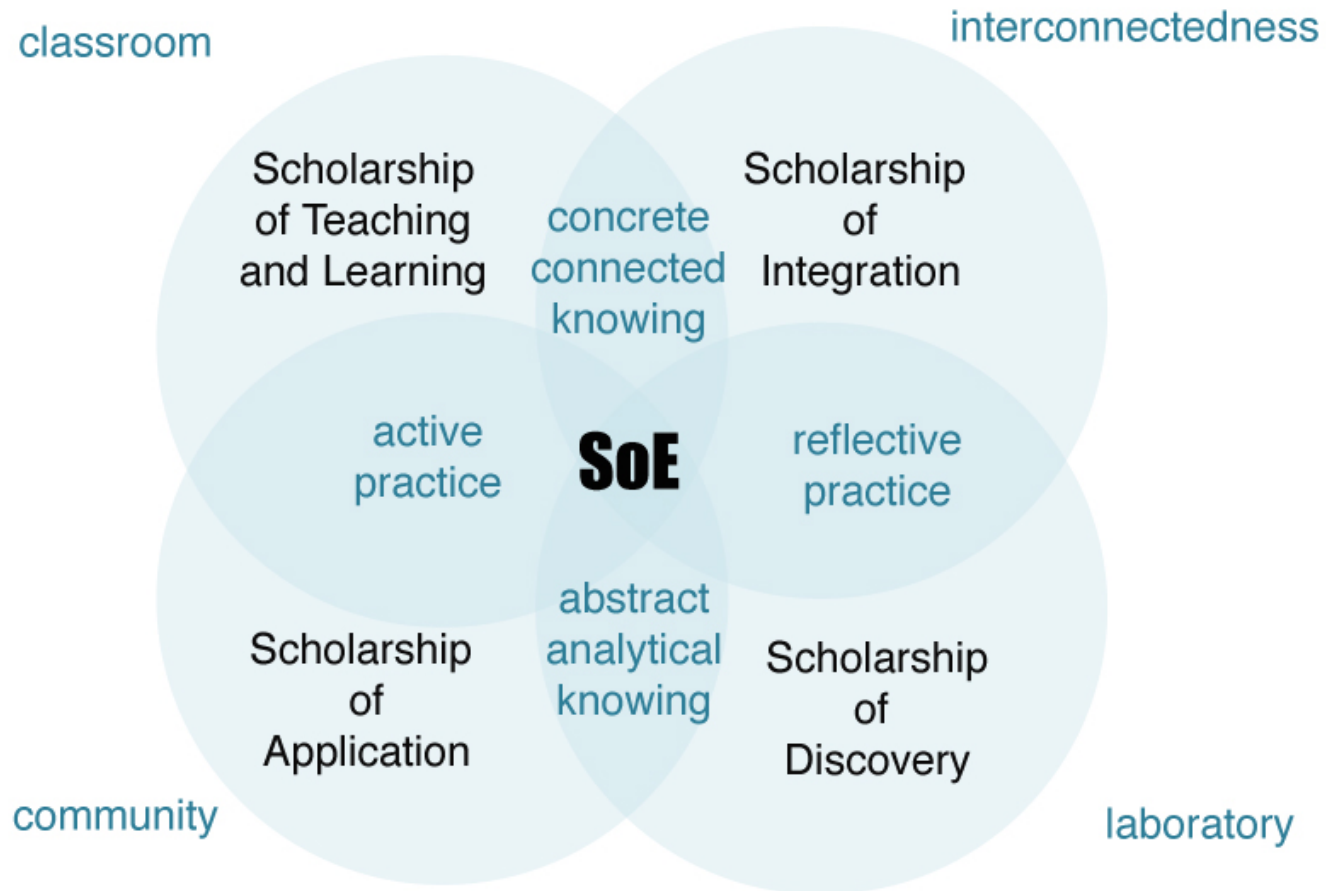
Balance: University Supply versus Market Demand


- University supply = university research/
academic strengths
- CE can be more flexible
- Online delivery

Balance: University Supply versus Market Demand

- Scholarship of Engagement
- Essential Partnerships
 - Research
 - Academic Support Depts
 - Other institutions
 - Healthy Communities

Scholarship of Engagement



The top banner features a collage of images: an elderly person's eye, a starry night sky, a blue abstract shape, and a red abstract shape.

Institutional Requirements to Enable/Promote Lifelong Learning

Institutional Requirements → University Mission Statements

- Mission and strategy: lifelong learning and adult learners recognized and integrated 'at the top'
- Define "Lifelong Learning"??

QUESTION: What do you consider “Lifelong Learning” -

- a) An emancipatory or social justice model which pushes the notion of equality of opportunity and life chances through education in a democratic society (‘Lifelong learning for ALL’);
- b) An ‘open post-industrial society’ model in which lifelong learning is seen as an adequate learning system for citizens of developed, multicultural and democratic countries (‘Lifelong learning for all who want, and are able, to participate’)
- c) A human capital model where lifelong learning connotes continuous work-related training and skill development to meet the needs of the economy and employers for a qualified, flexible and adaptable workforce (‘Lifelong learning for finding or keeping jobs in a changing labour market’).

Institutional Requirements → Policies

- P&T acknowledgements
- Faculty Development & Support
- Intellectual property
- Autonomy & Academic Freedom
- Programming
 - PLAR
 - Laddering & Bridging

Institutional Requirements → Administration - Funding Models for CE

- Cost recovery - revenue share
- Institutionally supported
- Private sector supported
- Worker Union supported
- Combination

Institutional Requirements → Organizational Structure

- Central unit
- Partnerships
 - teaching/faculty dev, IT, Library, etc.
 - academic units
- Use of faculty

Institutional Requirements → Research, Teaching & Learning

- Identify cross-sections (SoE)
- Research related to andragogy and best practices
- Support for faculty/instructors related to teaching adults, teaching online

Institutional Requirements Student Support (e.g. Frontier College)

- *"Whenever and wherever people shall have occasion to congregate, then and there shall be the time, place and means of their education."*
- Reverend Alfred Fitzpatrick, 1920

Institutional Requirements → Student Support

- Flexibility for adult learners
 - Registration
 - Prior Learning
 - Scheduling
 - Accessibility of an aging population
 - AODA

Institutional Requirements Administration - Governance - **Matrix Model**

Academic Knowledge creation & dissemination	Entrepreneurial Strategic business development & marketing
Adult Education Learning process and community	Administrative Organization and systems

Societal and Educational Pre-requisites for Lifelong Learning Success

Societal and Educational Pre-requisites

➔ Government policies

- Role of Government, Provinces
- CMEC collaboration consultation
- COU, Universities
- DLE - undergraduate and graduate

Societal and Educational Pre-requisites → Policies

- Articulation agreements
- degree-granting colleges increasing,
- pathways between college and university
- Prior learning assessment & recognition
- Challenge for credit
- Tuition waivers

Societal and Educational Pre-requisites:

➔ **Learner Support - Funding Models for Students**

- Government (Second Career, OSAP)
- Private Sector (Employee sponsored)
- “Drawing Rights” (LLL tax break RRSP)
- Individual Development Accounts
- Out of pocket

Societal and Educational Pre-requisites for Lifelong Learning Success

- Culture of innovation and risk-taking
- Flexibility of human mind



Discussion

Utility of CE: Employability vs. Citizenry

- *Activity*

Conclusions

6 Elements Crucial to the Development of Lifelong Learning

1. Overarching regulatory, financial, and cultural/social frameworks
2. Strategic partnerships and linkages
3. Research
4. Teaching and learning processes
5. Administrative policies and mechanisms
6. Student support systems and services