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Project 2015-28 Executive Summary
Enhancement of Existing and Creation
of Additional Diploma to Degree
Pathways Between
Wilfrid Laurier University
&
Conestoga College Institute of
Technology and Advanced Learning

Report Prepared for the Ontario Council on
Articulation and Transfer (ONCAT)

By Dr. Lauren Eisler and Valerie Clement
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Executive Summary

Project 2015-28 sought to build upon the success of ONCAT Project 2014-06 by continuing to enhance existing and create new academic pathways within the comprehensive partnership between Wilfrid Laurier University ("Laurier") and Conestoga College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning ("Conestoga") through their Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This project also sought to continue to enhance the transferable model that was developed as part of Project 2014-06. As such, the two main components of this project were to: 1) identify fully the opportunities for joint academic and shared administrative services/infrastructure in Brantford; and 2) create tools and models that can expedite/facilitate new partnerships and joint programming across Ontario's post-secondary education system.

In order to identify opportunities for shared administrative services and infrastructure on the Brantford campuses, executive bodies from Laurier and Conestoga have been working to draft collaboration agreements to append to the Memorandum of Understanding that was signed in 2013. It was originally proposed that six potential areas for partnerships be explored to build upon the strengths of both institutions. During the scope of this project, some ideas were explored, while others were added or developed in an altered form.

In total, four joint programs were successfully developed: Conestoga's Autism and Behavioural Science graduate certificate with Laurier's Honours Bachelor of Arts in Community Health; Conestoga's Sustainable Business Management (formerly Green Management) and Community and Social Service Management graduate certificates with Laurier's Honours Bachelor of Arts in Society, Culture, and Environment; Conestoga's Community and Social Service Management graduate certificate with Laurier's Honours Bachelor of Arts in Human Rights and Human Diversity; and Conestoga's Human Resources Management and Career Development Practitioner graduate certificates with Laurier's new Honours Bachelor of Arts in Work and Employment. Additionally, a new integrated program was developed - Conestoga's Integrated Media Marketing - User Experience with Laurier's new Bachelor of Arts in Experience Design - and is currently awaiting approval by the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development. Three opportunities for future collaborations were also identified as part of this project.

The creation of new academic pathways for students inevitably led to tools and models to be developed to help facilitate joint programming. While many of the tools, models, and best practices were developed as part of Project 2014-06, some have been revised and other ones have been created, including marketing initiatives. Templates and copies of the service processes have been appended to the final report for use as a transferable model in Ontario's post-secondary education system.