oncat

Ontario Council on
Articulation and Transfer

Annual Report 2022 2023

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Message from the Board Co-Chairs

Over the past four years, we have been honoured to serve as Board Co-Chairs for ONCAT. It has been fulfilling to watch the organization grow, and it's been especially impressive to witness the team's dedication and resiliency throughout the pandemic.

We are pleased to have overseen the change of ONCAT's bylaws to include Indigenous Institutes in their mandate, which has led to a more diverse Board of Directors, as well as ONCAT's strategic plan, which included feedback from various stakeholders, and received approval by our Board.

Another significant and timely achievement was the creation of the "Pathways into Postsecondary for Students Impacted by the Pandemic" grant. More than ever, institutions across Ontario are committed to adapting to the ever-changing needs of students; it has been inspiring to witness the enthusiasm for this funding opportunity.

ONCAT has continued to work steadily in service of Ontario's postsecondary transfer system, adapting to the shifting needs of transfer students and staff.

On behalf of the Board, we thank the Government of Ontario for funding ONCAT's work, our institutional partners for their continued collaboration, and the Ontario Ministry of Colleges and Universities for their continued support of pathways and transfer.

We enjoyed our time as Co-Chairs at ONCAT and found the experience incredibly rewarding. We are especially proud of the organization's efforts to maintain momentum throughout COVID-19, for a seamless transition to a new Executive Director, and for developing an impressive and exciting new strategic plan.

We remain champions and will continue to advocate for accessible, fair, and consistent transfer pathways for Ontario students. We wish the best to the incoming Co-Chairs and thank the team at ONCAT for their exceptional work.

Best wishes and continued success,

Ron Common, President, Sault College

Deb MacLatchy, President & Vice-Chancellor, Wilfrid Laurier University

Message from the Executive Director

Over the past three and a half years, the postsecondary education sector has navigated its way through a global pandemic, continually adapting to students' needs, and working tirelessly to provide the education journey they deserve. It certainly hasn't been easy; there have been countless and unrelenting challenges along the way. ONCAT is deeply grateful to our partner institutions for their consistent and dedicated work throughout this unprecedented time.

ONCAT has continued to transition and grow over the past year; it's been exciting to bring together a team of passionate people who are deeply committed to helping students get easier access to academic mobility.

Having been a part of ONCAT for over a year, I continue to be impressed by the organization's work to support the transfer process in Ontario through our research projects, funding opportunities, and events, all of which are listed in this report.

We continue to work diligently on ONCAT's Strategic Plan, which positions learner mobility as our key priority. We understand students need support more than ever, and we are committed to providing a more seamless transfer experience for all.

I want to thank Ron Common and Deb MacLatchy for their excellent work and unwavering support as Co-Chairs of ONCAT for the past four years. We wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new Co-Chairs, Kevin Weaver, the President & CEO at Georgian College, and Leo Groarke, the President & Vice-Chancellor at Trent University. We are excited to receive your valuable guidance and contributions, and we look forward to working together to support postsecondary students in achieving their academic goals.

Adrienne Galway
Executive Director, ONCAT

Building Institutional Capacity and Collaboration for Learner Mobility

Grants by the Numbers

As part of our core mission to improve opportunities for learner mobility, ONCAT provides funding for projects that build institutional capacity and collaboration within Ontario's publicly assisted colleges, universities, and Indigenous Institutes.

Through a variety of funding streams, ONCAT supports the evaluation, implementation, and expansion of academic policies, administrative practices, transfer pathways, and system-level improvements.

During 2022-23, almost 30 ONCAT-funded institutional projects were completed:

- **2** Transfer Pathways
- **2** Seamless Transfer
- **2** Indigenous Institutes transfer grants
- **4** MapIt Learning Collaborative

- **1** MapIt 2.0
- **9** MyCredsTM Institutional Onboarding
- **2** DataPilot
- **3** Student Action Projects

For more information on these and other projects funded by ONCAT, check out https://oncat.ca/en/projects-search for project snapshots.

Pathways into Postsecondary for Students Impacted by the Pandemic

COVID-19 disrupted the academic journeys for an entire generation of Ontario's learners. In response, ONCAT launched a special funding opportunity to develop and deploy programs for students impacted by the pandemic.

The call for proposals received more submissions than any other funding stream in ONCAT's history — a clear sign that Ontario's postsecondary institutions are committed to assisting students throughout these unprecedented times.

The ONCAT-funded projects include summer courses that help students recover pandemic-related academic gaps, coaching and mentorship programs that help students adjust to postsecondary studies, and specialized supports for Indigenous learners, mature students, and prospective students from historically unrepresented groups.

In total, ONCAT awarded funding for 11 projects led by eight postsecondary institutions:

Cambrian College, College La Cité, George Brown College, Georgian College, Humber College, Lakehead University, Niagara College, and York University.

Seamless Transfer

ONCAT supports the implementation of consistent, transparent, and student-centric transfer processes. With a focus on innovation and experimentation, this funding stream encourages the identification of successful practices that can be replicated throughout Ontario's postsecondary system.

In 2022-23, two postsecondary institutions received support via this funding stream: Lakehead University and Six Nations Polytechnic.
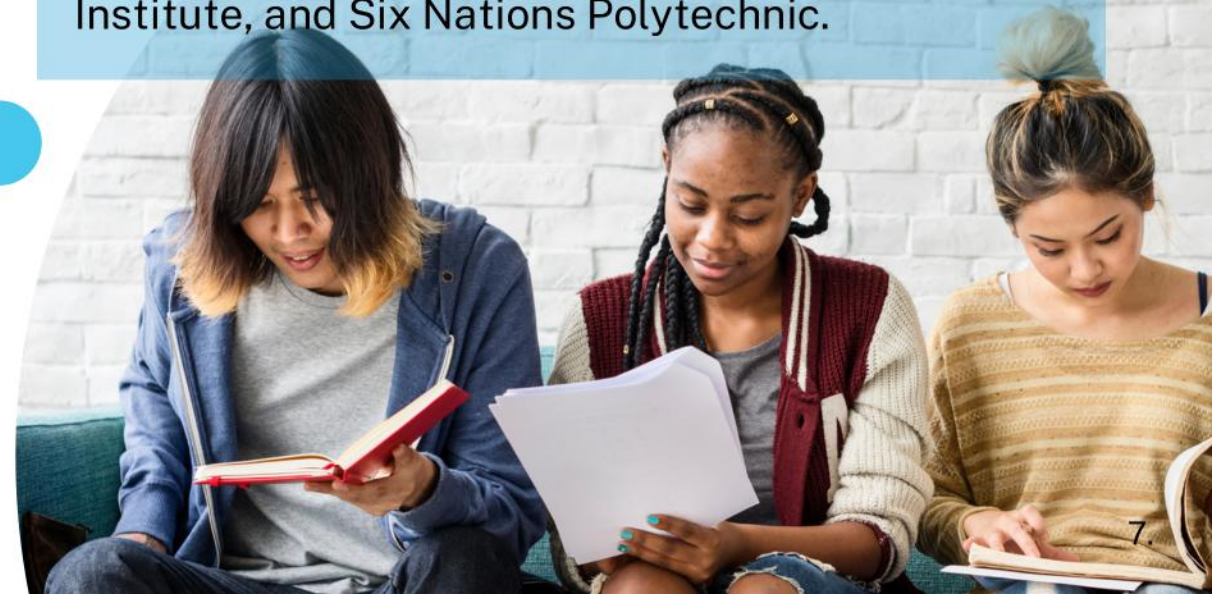
Transfer Pathways

ONCAT supports the development of in-demand pathways that respond to student interest and create opportunities that address regional and/or labour market needs. With an emphasis on fostering cross-institutional collaboration, this funding stream assists the evaluation, implementation, and expansion of transfer pathways.

In 2022-23, this funding stream supported the development of three new transfer pathways.

Indigenous Institutes Transfer Operations and Capacity Grant

ONCAT works with Indigenous Institutes to expand their operational capacity for transfer-related policies and activities. By helping develop and implement successful practices for student mobility, this funding stream facilitates higher levels of participation for Indigenous Institutes within Ontario's postsecondary transfer system.

In 2022-23, three Indigenous Institutes received support via this funding stream: First Nations Technical Institute, Seven Generations Education Institute, and Six Nations Polytechnic.

MapIt

The MapIt Learning Collaborative is a process mapping project that helps Ontario's publicly assisted colleges, universities, and Indigenous Institutes deepen their understanding of transfer policies and procedures. Higher Education Strategy Associates facilitates the delivery of the program; each participating institution gains customized insights about their transfer processes.

In 2022-23, five colleges joined the fifth cohort of the MapIt Learning Collaborative: Confederation College, Durham College, Fleming College, Georgian College, and Niagara College. In addition, two postsecondary institutions received support via the MapIt 2.0 funding stream (for projects focused on improving transfer processes): College La Cité and the University of Guelph.

MyCredsTM Institutional Onboarding

MyCredsTM is a digital platform—supported by the Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada (ARUCC)—that facilitates the secure and efficient sharing of transcripts, credentials, and applications. ONCAT provides funding to support Ontario's publicly assisted colleges, universities, and Indigenous Institutes with their implementation of the MyCredsTM platform.

In 2022-23, six colleges received funding for MyCredsTM onboarding: Canadore College, Durham College, Fleming College, George Brown College, Northern College, and Sault College.

Generating Knowledge about Learner Mobility

The development of a dynamic postsecondary transfer system in Ontario requires a deep understanding of student intentions, labour market outcomes, education trends, and other considerations.

Each year, ONCAT awards funding to external researchers working on projects related to learner mobility and Ontario's publicly assisted colleges, universities, and Indigenous Institutes. Additionally, ONCAT's team produces research reports and briefs that investigate emerging postsecondary issues, analyze quantitative datasets, and track long-term mobility behaviours.

As a guiding principle, ONCAT supports research that can directly inform and inspire improvements to policies, practices, and pathways at both the institutional and system-wide levels.

In 2022-23, ONCAT-funded research resulted in the publication of seven reports focused on two topics: the potential stackability of micro-credentials and the connections between student motivations and labour market outcomes.

Potential Stackability of Micro-Credentials

- "A Mixed Method Study of Micro-Credentials in Ontario Public Colleges and Universities: Possibilities for Transfer and Stacking" (Scott Davies and Mohamed Dahir, with John McLevey)
- "Exploring newcomer perceptions of micro-credentials credibility in facilitating employment and postsecondary education pathways" (Michele Manocchi and Alex Pershai)
- "Approaches to Stackability of Micro-credentials: Options for Ontario" (Alex Usher, Iain Wilson, Tiffany MacLennan and Aidana Izhanova)

Connections between student motivations and labour market outcomes

- "Student Pathways into Ontario Colleges' Bachelor's Degrees: Patterns of mobility, student characteristics, academic and labour market outcomes" (Ursula McCloy & Gerardo Infante)
- "Education trajectories and effects on labour market outcomes of women, and minorities: Evidence from the Education and Labour Market Longitudinal Linkage Platform (ELMLP)" (Elena Hillman, Taylor Noriko Paul, Michael Haan, Wolfgang Lehmann)
- "Predicting Transfer Pathway Uptake and Associated Income Profiles: A Second Look at the TDSB-PSIS Linkage with a Focus on Disability" (Gillian Parekh, Robert S. Brown, David Walters, Dylan Reynolds, Naleni Jacob, Firrisaa Abdulkarim)
- "Understanding the Motivations of Ontario Students' College-to-University Pathways" (Sam Andrey, Karim Bardeesy, Zaynab Choudhry, Graham Dobbs, Tiffany Kwok, Cathy McKim)

For more information on these and other projects funded by ONCAT, check out https://oncat.ca/en/projects-search for project snapshots. Also in 2022-23, ONCAT awarded funding to five new research projects that explore transfer intent, apprenticeship pathways, technology-to-engineering pathways, and labour market outcomes.

ONCAT Longitudinal Study of Transfer Students

In September 2021, our research team launched the ONCAT Longitudinal Study of Transfer Students (OLSTS). This multi-year project tracks and analyzes a range of topics related to learner mobility: the factors motivating students to consider transferring between various institutions and programs, the sources of information that prospective transfer students consult, and the sociodemographic characteristics that potentially shape students' decision-making processes. OLSTS uses a mixed-method approach that includes online surveys, in-depth interviews, follow-up surveys, and dataset analyses.

OLSTS highlights for 2022-23

- 1150 students completed online surveys
- 31 students participated in interviews
- Research presentation at the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students (NISTS) conference
- Research presentation for the Transfer Advisor Group (TAG) Lunch and Learn series
- Research brief shared via ONCAT newsletter and posted to ONCAT website

In fall 2023, ONCAT will begin the next major phase of OLSTS: a follow-up survey that compares the experiences of transfer students with the perspectives of those same students before they moved between institutions and/or programs.

Sector Engagement & Knowledge Mobilization

Knowledge Mobilization

We continue to mobilize research, data, and practical knowledge through our research spotlights, blogs, newsletter, and social media. In the Fall of 2022, we held our first knowledge mobilization workshop for recipients of ONCAT funding. Grantees learned how to create knowledge mobilization plans, consider audiences for their research beyond academia, and use Twitter and LinkedIn to build an audience and promote their work. Grantees have shared their research in conferences and one of the articles that resulted from a project has been added to a course syllabus in the field of education.

August 2022

REPORT

ONCAT DataPilot Report: Trent University

Lunch and Learn Speakers' Series

In March 2022, ONCAT launched a program for Transfer and Student Mobility staff on effective processes and practices. Since the launch, we have held 12 sessions on topics including student advising, pathway development and maintenance, the MapIt project, research on Black transfer students' experiences, and research on transfer students' decision making. We have also used this gathering space to network, share successes and challenges, and support one another in solving system-wide issues.

Standing Committees

ONCAT continues to work with various established committees that collaborate on integrated strategies to create student pathways and enhance institutional collaboration among institutions in Ontario. These committees encouraging dialogue about new ideas and initiatives to support students of various populations and across regions. These Committees include the Northern Ontario Pathways Steering Committee, the Francophone and Bilingual Advisory Committee, the Heads of Transfer Advising Committee, and the Discipline Steering Committee. ONCAT is also currently working with the College sector to advise and support on the role of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and its intersections with transfer at the institutional level.

Transfer Advisor Survey

ONCAT collected information across the sector to gain insights and information on the communication and learning needs of those working in transfer at their institutions. This information will continue to guide ONCAT's engagement and knowledge mobilization priorities.

ONCAT Conference

Planning is underway for the return of ONCAT's Student Mobility and Pathways Conference! It will be held November 15 and 16, 2023 at the Marriott Eaton Centre in downtown Toronto. ONCAT is working with a sector Conference Committee to advise on content and review proposal submissions.

Conference Participation

ONCAT staff have participated in several conferences over the last year to build awareness of our funding programs, resources, and committees. We hosted a booth and interacted with our college sector colleagues at the Higher Education Summit. We also presented at the Ontario University Registrars' Association (OURA) conference in Toronto and the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students (NISTS) conference in Portland, Oregon.

Ontario's Transfer & Pathways Guide & ONTransfer.ca

Ontario's Transfer & Pathways Guide (ONTransfer.ca)

Ontario's Transfer & Pathways Guide provides a user-friendly platform for students to investigate their transfer options and receive support on their academic journey. Able to support data from Ontario's publicly assisted colleges, universities, and Indigenous Institutes, ONTransfer.ca has ongoing development to support students and institutions with relevant, up-to-date information. Here's how we made improvements in 2022/2023.

ONTransfer.ca Website Improvements

In 2022, the Transfer and Technology team continued to enhance the website by providing design-savvy and user-centric supports. We successfully launched a new content management software (CMS) to support the website that will provide modern web design and user graphics. With a fully operational team, improvements have continued with emphasis on services that support the Ontario public and institutions alike. Our focus in the coming years will be to support ONCAT's new strategic plan and priorities while improving our technology supports, increasing promotion of in-demand programs, attendance at transfer events, and more targeted communications for transfer students from intent, pre- and post-application, admission, and registration.

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Analytics and Growth

Ontario's Transfer and Pathways Guide had 174,633 users, 348,244 session visits, and 855,726 page views from April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023. This was a stable overall traffic (0.26% increase), but with increased utilization of the web content of sessions (27.46% increase) and page views (14.41% increase). Beginning in early 2023, the team will work with our Policy and Public Affair colleagues to update our communication plan to increase website traffic and enhance how we share transfer and pathway information with our partners.

174,633
Unique users of ONtransfer.ca

348,244
Unique session visits

Implementation of our Service Level Expectations (SLEs) has streamlined processes that resulted in an 2% increase in institutional data files from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023. By March 2023, there were 258,165 course equivalencies and 2,003 academic pathways that create over 27,000 unique pathway opportunities for students.

258,165
Course Equivalencies

2,003
Academic Pathways

27,000+
Unique Pathways

Student and Support Services

The Transfer and Technology team continued to look for innovative and efficient ways to support the sector through operationalization of a SLE. We launched our service tracker in January 2022 and have handled over 500 service inquiries from our partners to support pathway mobilization and transparency on Transfer & Pathways Guide since then. In October 2022, we relaunched our learner inquiry tool to support transfer and pathway questions from the community. Since January 2023, this tool as answered over 300 inquiries, averaging, around 3-4 questions each workday. Going forward, we will look to use these questions to enhance our services and improve the guide to better support Ontarians.

In 2022, we re-engaged with in-person events to support learners through attendance at comprehensive events, such as the Ontario University Fair, Ontario College Fair and Student Life Expo, and began to attend specific fairs and graduate expos hosted by our institutional partners. In the coming year, we will look to reinvigorate our student events attendance through internal reviews of what worked this year and look for ways to enhance our supports to learners and institutions across the province.

Strategic Planning

Strategic Plan for 2023-2026

ONCAT has developed a new Strategic Plan for 2023-2026 through consultations with staff, board members, representatives from Ontario's universities, colleges, and Indigenous Institutes, other members of the Ontario and Canadian postsecondary sectors and representatives from the Government of Ontario.

ONCAT has always focused on supporting students who wish to transfer within the postsecondary system in Ontario. The new strategic plan broadens and extends this focus to supporting learner mobility through the education-to-career journey, empowering learners to build on their previous education and work experience to achieve their personal, educational, and professional goals.

With learner mobility as the central focus of our work, ONCAT has identified the following priorities over the next three years:

1. **Make Pathways through Postsecondary Education and Training and into the Labour Market More Transparent:** ONCAT will provide a one-stop online gateway for students, workers and newcomers to survey the education-to-employment pathways available to them at any point in their career journey.
2. **Improve Opportunities for Learner Mobility:** ONCAT will fund the creation of new postsecondary pathways based on learner, regional and market demands and support projects that ease the mobility experience and build capacity of postsecondary partners to guide learners throughout their educational journey.
3. **Understand Learner Mobility:** ONCAT will conduct and commission research activities to attain a better understanding of emerging trends and needs in mobility, identifying key findings and best practices to inform the development of effective policies for student mobility.
4. **Raise Awareness of Learner Mobility:** ONCAT will ensure that all learners across the province are aware of their mobility options and the benefits of mobility to increase skills, knowledge and career opportunities.

The ONCAT team will finalize the three-year roadmap by Summer of 2023. The roadmap will highlight the key actions ONCAT will take to help postsecondary learners get where they want to go, no matter where they begin.

Financial Report

Financial Report 2022-2023

Our audited financial statement for 2022-2023 can be found at: https://oncat.ca/en/about-us

The report is comprised of the statement of financial position as of March 31, 2023; the statements of operations and changes in net assets and cash flows for the year; and notes on the financial statements — including a summary of significant accounting policies.

ONCAT Team

Adrienne Galway,
Executive Director

Shauna Love,
Operations Director

Andrew Wilson,
Transfer and
Technology Director

Rachel Houpt,
Director of Policy and
Public Affairs

Nicholas Hanson,
Director of Research,
Data and Funding

Peter Desera,
Finance Manager

Natalie Isber,
Project Manager

Carolyn Poplak,
Manager, Sector
Engagement

Sienna Stock,
Transfer & Student
Services Manager

Amy Oziel,
Operations Specialist

Jeffrey Napierala,
Senior Researcher

Henrique Hon,
Quantitative
Researcher

Nicolas Boileau,
Researcher

Melinda Cheng,
Senior Data Analyst

Tina Liu,
Data Analyst

Jane Waldner,
Senior
Communications
Specialist

Meryl Borato,
Knowledge
Mobilization
Specialist

Sanja Pavlovic,
Committees
Coordinator

Inna Yeranosyan,
Grants and Projects
Specialist

Allison Maldonado,
Business Systems
Analyst

Laura Geraci,
ONTransfer Service
Coordinator

Liwei Liao,
ONTransfer Data
Coordinator

Abdullah Mushtaq,
Executive &
Governance
Coordinator

Board of Directors

Kevin Weaver (Co-Chair)	President & CEO, Georgian College
Leo Groarke (Co-Chair)	President & Vice-Chancellor, Trent University
David Barnett	Vice President Academic, Lakehead University
Christine Bradaric-Baus	External Representative, Vice President Academic, Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College
Serge Demers	Registrar, Laurentian University
Cindy Fong	Registrar, Seneca College
Gillian Gibbons	External Representative, Superintendent of Education, York Region District School Board
Adam Hopkins Sr.	Sr. Vice President Academic, First Nations Technical Institute
Kathryn Kettle	Graduate Representative
Lyne Michaud	Vice President, Academic, Collège Boréal
Laura Stanbra	Vice President, Student Services, Algonquin College
Stephanie Ye-Mowe	Student Representative, University of Waterloo

Ex Officio Members of the Board:

Adrienne Galway	Executive Director, ONCAT
Janet Hope	Vice President of Policy and Innovation, Colleges Ontario
Heather Lane	Executive Director, Ontario Universities' Application Centre
Robert Luke	CEO, eCampusOntario
Marc Provencher	President & CEO, Ontario College Application Service
Marny Scully	Vice President of Policy and Strategy, Council of Ontario Universities

Former Board Members:

Ron Common	President & CEO, Sault College
Deborah MacLatchy	President & Vice-Chancellor, Wilfrid Laurier University
Casey Philips	Vice President, Students, Nipissing University
Tori Arnett	Student Representative, St. Lawrence College

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Our Partners

Summary & Project Descriptions of 2022-2023 Funded Projects

2022 Transfer Pathways Funding Stream

#P2309: *Creating Bidirectional Pathway Opportunities for Students in Applied Science and Technology*

Project Lead: Lakehead University | **Partners:** Fanshawe College of Applied Arts and Technology |
Amount Awarded: $22,166

This project develops new pathways between Lakehead and Fanshawe, creating more opportunities for students to pursue further education within the same province. The development of a list of recommended electives will provide students with more opportunities to reduce the time-to-completion for obtaining both a degree and a diploma.

#P2310: *Exploring Opportunities for General Arts and Science Graduates*

Project Lead: Lakehead University | **Partners:** Fanshawe College of Applied Arts and Technology |
Amount Awarded: $11,798

This project explores pathway opportunities associated with the General Arts and Science programs at Fanshawe, with particular focus on identifying prerequisite credits for entry into specific degree programs, transfer credits for advanced standing in degree programs, and specific pathway development between diploma and degree programming.

#P2331: *Development of In-demand Healthcare Programs: University-to-College Pathways*

Project Lead: Confederation College of Applied Arts and Technology | **Partner:** Lakehead University |
Amount Awarded: $51,073

This project supports the development of degree-to-diploma (or certificate) healthcare pathways. In particular, the project aims to increase the number of students accessing those programs in Northern Ontario, as well as encourage graduates to stay and practice in the region.

2022 Seamless Transfer

#S2330: *Remodeling Honours Bachelor of Kinesiology Pathways*

Project Lead: Six Nations Polytechnic | **Amount Awarded:** $77,415

This project advances the continued development of Six Nations Polytechnic's transfer credit and advanced standing policies, specifically with their Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) policy.

#S2347: *Expansion of Digital Transcript Exchange in Ontario — Year 3*

Project Lead: Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada | **Amount Awarded:** $400,000

This project supports the ongoing improvement, expansion, and implementation of MyCreds—a platform and website that offers a pan-Canadian document exchange highway and credential wallet for students and graduates.

#S2349: *Transfer and Mature Student Transition Program*

Project Lead: Lakehead University | **Partners:** Confederation College of Applied Arts and Technology | **Amount Awarded:** $76,450

This project implements new strategies to help reduce barriers facing mature and transfer students. Programs will boost awareness for transfer opportunities and offer peer support activities to improve the academic development, social connection, and retention of mature and transfer students.

MapIt Phase 2 Funding Stream

#S2305: *Exploring the Integration of Transfer Credit Equivalency Tools*

Project Lead: University of Guelph | **Amount Awarded:** $88,000

This project supports the University of Guelph's institution-wide implementation of the OCEMC (Ontario Course Equivalency Management Centre) system, with goals to streamline transfer credit evaluation processes.

#S2343: *Transfer Policy and Practices*

Project Lead: College la Cité | **Amount Awarded:** $34,562

This project contributes to the development of College La Cité's transfer credit policies, including the general principles for transfer pathways and the terms for developing new articulation agreements.

2022 Indigenous Institutes Transfer Operations and Capacity Funding

#I2344: *Improving Transfer Operations and Capacity*

Project Lead: Six Nations Polytechnic | **Amount Awarded:** $64,735

This project enhances SNP's transfer capacity through the digitization of student records, the development of processes to improve student supports for transfer and mobility, and the analysis of articulation agreements and specific pathways.

#I2346: *Transfer Strategies — Year 2*

Project Lead: First Nations Technical Institute | **Amount Awarded:** $75,000

This project supports FNTI's transfer operations with the hiring of a dedicated Pathways Coordinator, as well as the development of strategies for broadening transfer opportunities for students and streamlining agreements with partnered programs.

#I2350: *Developing Capacity for Student Mobility in the Treaty 3 Region — Year 2*

Project Lead: Seven Generations Education Institute | **Amount Awarded:** $56,760

This project fosters stronger institution-wide connections between academic units at SGEI and the Registrar's team, with goals to better assist the students in the transfer process and deepen administrative knowledge about mobility opportunities.

Pathways into Postsecondary for Students Impacted by the Pandemic

#S2329: *Academic Preparedness and Bridging Program*

Project Lead: Lakehead University | **Amount Awarded:** $35,750

This project develops and delivers a seminar course to familiarize mature and transfer students with strategies for achieving success in university-level programs. Students may be eligible to earn credit that could be used towards their Lakehead degree (and/or other colleges and universities, in alignment with institutional transfer credit policies).

#S2332: *Pathways into Outdoor Recreation, Parks, and Tourism for Indigenous Learners*

Project Lead: Lakehead University | **Partners:** Collège Boréal, Confederation College of Applied Arts and Technology | **Amount Awarded:** $98,594

This project explores ways to engage Indigenous learners from Northern communities. In particular, the project aims to enhance Indigenous learners' access to postsecondary opportunities related to the rapidly growing outdoor recreation, parks, and tourism sectors in Northern Ontario.

#S2333: *MPOWER (My Path of Worthwhile Educational Reengagement) — Supporting Indigenous Students Transition to Postsecondary*

Project Lead: Niagara College of Applied Arts and Technology | **Amount Awarded:** $59,107

This project supports the delivery of a holistic program designed to assist Indigenous learners with their transition to postsecondary education using a cultural approach. Students who complete the program can earn credits that are transferrable to programs at Niagara College (and/or other colleges and universities, in alignment with institutional transfer credit policies).

#S2334: *Pandemic Recovery Pathway Project*

Project Lead: Georgian College of Applied Arts and Technology | **Amount Awarded:** $42,983

This project helps prospective students navigate the postsecondary environment. Specifically, the project features the expansion of coaching and support initiatives, as well as the development of a general education course focused on strategies for academic and personal success.

#S2335: *Summer Bridge Program to Support Access to Postsecondary Education and Support Pandemic Academic Recovery for Equity-Deserving Learners*

Project Lead: Humber College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning | **Amount Awarded:** $10,020

This project identifies and supports learners who face multiple barriers to access and inclusion. The project includes a for-credit summer course that not only helps mitigate students' pandemic-related academic gaps, but also reduces the required course load in their first semester.

#S2337: *Transition Supports for Indigenous Students*

Project Lead: Cambrian College of Applied Arts and Technology | **Amount Awarded:** $79,845

This project supports the development and implementation of a for-credit, two-semester program that builds foundational skills in math, language, and digital literacy. Notably, the program reduces barriers to postsecondary access by accepting students with workplace-level high school credentials.

#S2338: *Bridging For Success*

Project Lead: York University | **Partner:** Toronto Metropolitan University | **Amount Awarded:** $88,550

This project develops two bridging programs that help prospective students from historically unrepresented groups prepare for successful transitions into the postsecondary system. One program supports students with forced migration backgrounds; the other one develops writing skills for students from Toronto's Jane Finch neighbourhoods.

#S2340: *Pathways to Postsecondary for Students Affected by Pandemic*

Project Lead: George Brown College of Applied Arts and Technology | **Amount Awarded:** $95,825

This project identifies and supports learners who expressed 'pandemic related' or 'financial hardship' reasons for withdrawing from their studies within the last four academic years. The project features the delivery of a micro-credential program to help students successfully return to the postsecondary system.

#S2341: *Post-pandemic Boot Camp*

Project Lead: College La Cité | **Amount Awarded:** $92,210

This project supports the design and delivery of micro-certifications in mathematics, biology, office automation, and French. These bridging courses help prospective students gain greater familiarity with the critical concepts and essential skills required for their successful transition into the postsecondary system.

2022 Research Projects

#R2311: *Ethno-racial Disparities in Vertical Transfer Intent among Ontario College Applicants: An Analysis of the University/College Applicant Survey*

Project Lead: Academica Group | **Principal Investigator:** Dr. Roger Pizarro Milian | **Co-Investigators:** Dr. Julie Peters, Dr. Rochelle Wijesignha | **Amount Awarded:** $48,477

This project analyzes ethno-racial disparities in college-to-university transfer intent among applicants to Ontario colleges from 2013-21. The findings will be used to inform prospective policy strategies that could be adopted to promote equity within the Ontario transfer system.

#R2312: *Exploration of Postsecondary Pathways and Apprenticeship: Two Further Analyses of TDSB and ELMLP Data*

Project Lead: York University | **Partners:** McMaster University, University of Guelph | **Principal Investigator:** Dr. Gillian Parekh | **Co-Investigators:** Dr. Rob S. Brown, Dr. David Walters | **Amount Awarded:** $137,941

This project helps postsecondary institutions create new practices, policies, and supports for non-traditional students who move through apprenticeship pathways. As a central focus, the project will analyze the graduation and employment outcomes for people with disabilities.

#R2316: *University/College Applicant Study (UCAS) Transfer Supplement Development Project*

Project Lead: Academica Group| **Principal Investigator:** Dr. Roger Pizarro Milian | **Co-Investigator:** Chris Hall | **Amount Awarded:** $89,941

This project pilots the introduction of a new transfer supplement into the 2023 version of the University/College Applicant Study (UCAS) and aims to generate timely data on transfer student decision-making and affiliated policy-relevant topics.

#R2322: *Technology-to-Engineering Transfer Pathways: Institutional Stakeholders' Experiences and Perspectives*

Project Lead: Queen's University | **Principal Investigator:** Dr. Brian Frank | **Amount Awarded:** $38,241

This project deepens the understanding of how administrators and faculty in engineering and engineering technology programs perceive technology-to-engineering transfer pathways, particularly related to access for students from historically unrepresented groups.

#R2323: *Strategic Review of Statistics Canada's ELMLP for Ontario Transfer Research*

Project Lead: Academica Group | **Principal Investigator:** Dr. Roger Pizarro Milian | **Co-Investigators:** Dr. Julie Peters, Dr. David Zarifa | **Amount Awarded:** $79,055

This project will produce a roadmap of high-impact, transfer-relevant research using Statistics Canada's Education and Labour Market Longitudinal Linkage Platform (ELMLP) and its associated datasets. The research activities will include an analysis of multiple strategies to measure student mobility within the Postsecondary Student Information System (PSIS).

MyCreds™ Institutional Onboarding

#S2301 | Northern College of Applied Arts and Technology | Amount Awarded: $28,875

#S2317 | Durham College of Applied Arts and Technology | Amount Awarded: $18,795

#S2318 | George Brown College of Applied Arts and Technology | Amount Awarded: $25,000

#S2320| Canadore College of Applied Arts and Technology | Amount Awarded: $18,975

#S2321| Sir Sandford Fleming College of Applied Arts and Technology | Amount Awarded: $20,086

#S2345 | Sault College of Applied Arts and Technology | Amount Awarded: $24,410

MapIt 5.0: Institutional Process Mapping Project

#M2307| Durham College of Applied Arts and Technology (MapIt 4.0) | Amount Awarded: $10,000

#M2314 | Niagara College of Applied Arts and Technology | Amount Awarded: $10,000

#M2315 | Georgian College of Applied Arts and Technology | Amount Awarded: $10,000

#M2327 | Confederation College of Applied Arts and Technology | Amount Awarded: $10,000

#M2342 | Sir Sandford Fleming College of Applied Arts and Technology | Amount Awarded: $10,000

#M2308 | Consultant: Higher Education Strategies Associates | Amount Awarded: $52,646

2022 Community Animators on Transfer (CATs)

#T2302 | Wenxin Dong | Amount Awarded: $1,500

#T2303 | Fisher Stubbs | Amount Awarded: $1,500

#T2304 | Vishalinee Barendra | Amount Awarded: $1,500