



Project Briefing Winter 2018

The National Groningen & Student Mobility Project

Solving Big Problems by Seizing Even Bigger Opportunities

Project Vision

To create a Canada-wide network for student data exchange that advances national and international student mobility between institutions and into the workforce.

Partnering Towards Student Mobility

ARUCC's project partners include three national associations - the Pan-Canadian Consortium on Admissions and Transfer ([PCCAT](#)), the Canadian University Council of Chief Information Officers ([CUCCIO](#)), and the Canadian Post-Secondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) User Group ([CanPESC](#)).

Problems to Solve

- ❖ Impediments preventing support of student mobility
- ❖ Document fraud and subsequent erosion of the Canadian education brand, institutional reputations and credentials
- ❖ Supporting alternative approaches to data exchange and credentialing
- ❖ Unintentional infrastructure and governance barriers preventing scalable and efficient national service delivery
- ❖ Data connectivity gaps between institutions, data hubs, and regions both nationally and internationally
- ❖ Uneven data exchange capacity that varies by region

Project Benefits

- ❖ Advancing national and international student mobility for Canada
- ❖ Supporting students by providing their transcripts and credentials in a digitized format and at a speed that supports seamless mobility into institutions and the workforce
- ❖ Maximizing Canadian post-secondary institutional efficiency and student service through trusted digital student data exchange both across Canada and from around the world
- ❖ Accelerating efforts to create new connections between trusted international student data exchange providers and Canadian institutions, provincial application centres, and data hubs

Endorsements



How to Help Make This Happen?

Creating a national data exchange infrastructure requires people, participation, and money.

The National Project requires...

- ❖ Endorsements
- ❖ Start Up Funding
- ❖ Pilot Project Funding
- ❖ Advice and Expertise

Next Steps?

Business Case Development, Fundraising, Pilots



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The Case for Change

- ❖ Supporting student lifelong learning requires looking beyond institutional provincial boundaries for collaborative data exchange opportunities and platforms.

Significant numbers of students move between institutions.¹ International student enrolments² and interest in learning outcomes and alternative forms of credentialing are growing. Select (although not all) Canadian provinces and territories are well served locally; less so nationally and internationally. Next generation imperatives include (i) accelerating connections across Canada and internationally between trusted partners, and (ii) developing the capacity to exchange existing and new micro-credentials. Institutions must be supported with a comprehensive digital strategy for exchanging student data to enhance efficiencies, service delivery, and student movement beyond individual institutions and local borders.
- ❖ Document fraud is increasing and undermining the integrity of high quality education.³
 - Canadian institutions must address the issue systematically and work together to preserve the Canadian brand.
- ❖ Provincial/territorial, national and international student mobility are strategic priorities at many Canadian institutions – data mobility equals student mobility.
 - Registrarial and pathway leaders within post-secondary institutions and allied organizations recognize data mobility enables efficient and scalable student mobility; to realize the latter requires a strategic focus on the former.
- ❖ Ensuring quality assured assessment practices are a national and international imperative.
 - The Lisbon Recognition Convention (LRC) to which Canada is a signatory, requires assessments of educational documents occur in accordance with quality assured and auditable practices. The LRC was tabled with the Canadian House of Commons in October 2017;⁴ ratification is imminent. It facilitates mobility through recognizing academic credentials issued in and out of Canada and seeks to improve access to information about Canadian education systems. Ensuring access to trusted student information and supporting efficient, scalable, and quality assured assessment practices represents core components of the national Project.
- ❖ Expanding the number of Canadians who are studying abroad represents a strategic priority and necessity.
 - The report of the Study Group on Global Education published by the Centre for International Policy Studies (University of Ottawa) and the Munk School of Global Affairs (University of Toronto) outlines several challenges and recommendations including improving the data exchange infrastructure to enhance efficiencies.⁵ The national Project aligns with the recommendations embodied in this call to action.

¹ See BC's Student Transitions Project as one example: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/post-secondary-education/data-research/student-transitions-project>

² See <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/81-599-x/81-599-x2016011-eng.htm>

³ See <https://wenr.wes.org/2017/12/academic-fraud-corruption-and-implications-for-credential-assessment>

⁴ See <https://www.cicic.ca/1398/An-overview-of-the-Lisbon-Recognition-Convention/index.canada>

⁵ See Goglobalcanada.ca