

MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ 1ST PLACE WINNER

FOR MOBILE LEARNER

- PESC 22ND ANNUAL BEST PRACTICES -







FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE SEPTEMBER 23, 2021 CONTACTS: JENNIFER KIM, PESC JOANNE DUKLAS, ARUCC



MYCREDS™ | MESCERTIF™ AWARDED 1ST PLACE FOR 'MOBILE LEARNER' ROLE IN 22ND BEST PRACTICES

ARUCC'S NATIONAL NETWORK BEING IMPLEMENTED ACROSS CANADA

Washington, D.C. ~ The Board of Directors of the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) is pleased to announce <u>MyCredsTM</u> | <u>MesCertifTM</u> as 1st Place Winner for *Mobile Learner* role in PESC's 22nd Annual Best Practices Competition.

Through this network established by the Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada (ARUCC), Canadian colleges and universities are providing credential wallets to learners, giving them 24-7 access and helping them securely send their documents, badges, microcredentials, transcripts, and parchments wherever and whenever they want - anytime, anywhere.

"From 2014, ARUCC began a journey to explore the world of digitization," says Romesh Vadivel, Past President, ARUCC. "We engaged with hundreds of higher education leaders through surveys, consultation work groups, meetings and more to understand the challenges impeding learner mobility. The evidence indicated we could and should do more to ensure supports in place for both domestic and international learners entering into, transferring between and graduating from our Canadian colleges and universities. MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ represents an excellent illustration of what we can do together to help learners achieve their dreams."

"We received a formal mandate from the community of registrars here in Canada to proceed with MyCreds™ | MesCertif™," says Charmaine Hack, former President and current Project Chair, ARUCC. "They gave their unanimous support for moving forward with the RFP and subsequently creating the national network we have today. As each school onboards, thousands of students have been able to access and share their official documents both in Canada and around the world. We are extremely impressed with the forward-thinking vision of our community and believe that with MyCreds™ | MesCertif™, our students will be well supported as they move ahead into the job market."

"It's been an honour to support this initiative since 2014," says Joanne Duklas, Executive Lead, ARUCC MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ and former past president, ARUCC. "Helping learners to access their official documents through use of advanced technology and innovative digitization practices has become an essential component to modern sustainable service delivery. With MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ powered by Digitary, a world leader in this space, we have managed in eight months to deliver 100,000 official documents to 80,000 learners across 20 institutions through virtual wallets. It's been a tremendous success and we look forward to more schools joining as quickly as possible to continue the wave of support."

"The management and governance illustrated by ARUCC of MyCreds™ | MesCertif™, along with the extensive community outreach conducted, are simply extraordinary and exemplary," states Michael D. Sessa, PESC President & CEO. "Each step in their entire development plan was meticulously and methodically addressed, from beginning to implementation. In being such a major achievement for ARUCC and for Canada, MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ serves as a mobile-learner best practice model for other countries, networks and communities."

The award-winning submission made by ARUCC is posted on the PESC website with prior winners at www.pesc.org. An Awards Ceremony will be held during the General Sessions at PESC's October 2021 Data Summit being held virtually October 19-21, 2021.

For more information about the MyCredsTM | MesCertifTM and ARUCC, please visit https://arucc.ca/en/, https://arucc.ca/fr/.

For more information about PESC and the Annual Best Practices Competition, please visit https://www.pesc.org/.

ABOUT MYCREDSTM | MESCERTIFTM

ARUCC is pleased to announce the launch of a comprehensive, bilingual, online credential wallet for Canadian post-secondary learners called MyCreds™ MesCertif™. This new wallet is the outcome of the incredible effort of well over 100 higher education leaders across Canada who, along with ARUCC's service provider, Digitary, are creating new ways to support learners who seek to share their documents, badges, credentials and micro-credentials on a 24/7 basis - anytime, anywhere. ARUCC is grateful to the many higher education experts from our colleges and universities across Canada, and its partners, PCCAT, CUCCIO, CanPESC, and the Digitary team. These people continue to collaborate in new and innovative ways to support post-secondary learners. Stay tuned for further news as our post-secondary institutions join MyCreds™ MesCertif™ over the coming weeks and months.

ABOUT ARUCC

ARUCC is a member-driven association whose mission is to help foster within the Canadian higher education sector the advancement of registrarial best practices. Accordingly, ARUCC respects the autonomy and authority of all member institutions and organizations as it pertains to their individual processes, policies, and privacy concerns. The development and curation of national best practices relies heavily on consultation, benchmarking and research. Recommendations for best practices are made available to members, whom may freely adopt these or take them into account when revising and reviewing their own business operations. Members are encouraged to conduct their own due diligence and to consult with other members when seeking to amend their practices.

ARUCC is the owner of MyCreds[™] | MesCertif[™], a Made for Canada online national credential wallet, providing post-secondary learners with access to view and to share their digitized and portable post-secondary transcripts & credentials anytime, anywhere.

ABOUT PESC ANNUAL BEST PRACTICES

PESC Annual Best Practices Competition recognizes, highlights and promotes innovation and ingenuity in the application and implementation of interoperable data standards for business needs. The Annual Best Competition is open to institutions (schools, colleges, universities), associations, organizations, government agencies and departments, districts, consortia, non-profit and commercial service providers and other education stakeholders that have collaborated to design and/or adopt an electronic standardization initiative (e.g., published articles, white papers, pilots, demonstrations and implementations).

Submissions can/may include documentation, artifacts and descriptions of the scope of a project, participants and partners, types of standards employed, relevant dates and project milestones, copies of articles (if an article submission), outline of mission/objectives and any related statistics (# of transactions transmitted, estimated cost savings, etc.).

HALLMARKS OF BEST PRACTICES: While innovation and meeting customer needs will continue to ensure the rapid evolution of systems, applications, networks, products and services, those PESC recognizes as 'Best Practice' all share the use and inclusion of: Common Data Standards; Unique Identifiers and Standardized Code Sets; Quality Control Measures; Controlled Access and Security; Comprehensive Management Support; Flexibility and Scalability; Student/Learner-Centric; Formal Data Governance

EXPANSION OF BEST PRACTICES IN 2021: The Annual Best Practices expanded in 2021 into three separate categories: by region, by role, by technology. Awards may be made each year for each of the three separate categories; and multiple awards may be made each year under each category. The PESC Board of Directors Review Committee makes all awards and may determine that no award be made in a given year under one or more categories.

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September 23, 2021

MyCreds.ca MesCertif.ca MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ 1ST PLACE WINNER

FOR MOBILE LEARNER

- PESC 22ND ANNUAL BEST PRACTICES -



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Executive Lead
Association of Registrars of the

Universities and Colleges of Canada

https://arucc.ca/en/ https://arucc.ca/fr/

Dear Joanne:

On behalf of PESC & the PESC Board of Directors, I am pleased to notify you that your submission MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ in PESC's 22nd Annual Best Practices Competition has been awarded 1st Place Winner for "Mobile Leaner" role.

A multi-media press release will be issued by PESC announcing this 1st Place Award with this notification letter and your winning submission attached. An Awards Ceremony is planned for the opening session of PESC's upcoming October 2021 Data Summit (Tuesday, October 19, 2021). I hope you are available at this time to provide brief remarks.

Session time has also been allocated on the Summit program agenda for you to present your winning submission. Your winning submission will also be posted prominently on the **Annual Best Practices** page of PESC's website along with all previous 1st Place Award Winners. Please note the actual award will be held and delivered to you personally.

Congratulations from PESC and the PESC Board of Directors! Thank you and please extend warm thanks and gratitude to the ARUCC Executive Committee and the entire ARUCC team!

My best regards,

Michael D. Sessa

President & CEO

PESC

WWW.PESC.ORG

cc: PESC Board of Directors



PESC Best Practices
"MyCredsTM | MesCertifTM"
Mobile Learner Role
03 September 2021
Joanne Duklas
Executive Lead
ARUCC MyCreds MesCertif National Network
https://www.aruccnationalnetwork.ca/







MEDIA RELEASE

December 7, 2020 - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada (ARUCC) announces the official launch of MyCreds™ | MesCertif™, the national, bilingual credential wallet supported by a comprehensive website for Canada's post-secondary community and learners

With this new credential wallet and website, <u>ARUCC</u> is helping Canada's colleges and universities deliver digitized and portable transcripts and credentials - including badges and microcredentials - to post-secondary learners online – anytime, anywhere.

This new platform and supporting website are available for learners, employers, verifiers and third parties. Visit www.mycreds.ca or www.mescertif.ca for more information.

Colleges and universities across Canada are joining the MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ family to provide their students and graduates access to their new personalized wallet. Easy access for learners to the credential wallet is possible once their college or university joins and notifies them that their credential wallet is ready.

The new platform and website are supported by two Vancouver based firms: Digitary, which is an internationally renowned document issuing company, and Split Mango, a Canadian website design firm. Through this work, ARUCC is transforming service delivery to learners by providing expedited access to their official transcripts and credentials. The bilingual websites provide information about the MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ credential wallet and the extensive array of benefits for learners, employers and other third-parties.

MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ results from the efforts for four partnering organizations whose members have worked collaboratively to achieve this outcome through the ARUCC National Network Project. These organizations include ARUCC, the Pan-Canadian Consortium on Admissions and Transfer (PCCAT), the Canadian University Council of Chief Information Officers (CUCCIO), and the Canadian Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (CanPESC) User Group.

"Today is an exciting milestone for our national community and for Canadian post-secondary students and graduates in general as we progress to the next stage of providing a dedicated digital credential wallet for Canadian post-secondary students," says Romesh Vadivel, president, ARUCC. "We are ontrack to achieve our ultimate goal, which is the full launch of a national, secure digital network through which domestic and international students may share their official, digitized post-secondary transcripts and credentials."

Key benefits to learners offered through MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ include a personalized learner credential wallet with 24/7 access; bilingual service and support (French and English); and the ability for them to access, view, control and share their verified and official transcripts, credentials, badges, micro-credentials and documents in a digitized format anytime and anywhere.

The National Network continues to expand nationwide with new post-secondary institutions joining from across Canada. A sample of the first 30+ post-secondary institutions and other organizations confirmed as early adopters include ApplyAlberta, Bow Valley College, Dalhousie University, Douglas College, EducationPlannerBC, HEC Montréal, Humber College, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Lambton College, Lethbridge College, McGill University, McMaster University, Memorial University, Mohawk College, Nova Scotia Council on Admissions and Transfer, OCAS, Ontario Universities' Application Centre, Red River College, Ryerson University, Seneca College, University of Calgary, University of Guelph, University of King's College, University of Lethbridge, University of Northern British Columbia, University of Prince Edward Island, University of Regina, University of Saskatchewan, University of

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Waterloo, Western University and York University. Stay tuned for further announcements as each college and university onboards to MyCreds™ | MesCertif™.

Charmaine Hack, chair, ARUCC National Network Project; registrar, Ryerson University - "As the registrar of a larger, urban university, the provision of digitized credentials to post-secondary learners across Canada is hugely beneficial, particularly given the COVID situation. We work tirelessly to help our students, graduates and alumni showcase their academic achievements and propel them forward into their careers. Trusted, secure digital credentials can enable our post-secondary learners with anytime access to their own verified credentials which can be shared with whomever they choose. We at Ryerson have already launched the credential wallet to over 10,000 of our students and graduates using the Digitary platform and will soon move to the bilingual MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ branded credential wallet."

Sharon Kinasz, registrar, Seneca College, "It's wonderful to see the launch of the dedicated bilingual sites in English via the MyCreds™ website and in French via the website MesCertif™ — providing valuable information to learners, post-secondary institutions, employers and third-party verifiers. We have already launched on the Digitary platform and have provided a digitized credential wallet to close to 2,000 of our learners and graduates. We are excited to soon move to the MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ environment.""

"Digitary is honoured to support the creation and nationwide rollout of the Canadian MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ platform and wallet. As a global leader in the digital credentialing space, our focus has always centred around the learner and providing effective digital solutions which enable learners' mobility and enhance their employability. We're delighted to help bring MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ to Canada's learner community and see that accessibility extended today through bilingual websites providing dedicated information and support," says James Murray-Beckman, chief operating officer, Digitary.

Digitary's extensive suite of products and services includes digital badges and micro-credentials, blockchain technology, and self-sovereign identity (SSI) solutions, in addition to its proprietary Digitary CORE cloud-based platform for certifying, sharing and verifying academic credentials.

About ARUCC

The Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada (ARUCC) provides leadership in the post-secondary education field and service to its member institutions nationally and internationally, helping foster the advancement of registrarial practices and learner focused service delivery in Canada. For more information about the National Network and the MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ credential wallet, contact the project's Executive Lead, Joanne Duklas, at info@aruccnationalnetwork.ca or visit https://mycreds.ca/.

About Digitary

Digitary was launched in Dublin, Ireland in 2005, and has grown to become a leading online platform for certifying, sharing, and verifying academic credentials. Learner-centric since the very start, Digitary enables millions of learners to share their verified academic achievements online, securely, quickly and easily. Digitary is now used by organisations in over 135 countries. For further details visit www.digitary.net

About PCCAT - https://pccat.ca/pccat/

PCCAT is a Canadian not-for-profit consortium that seeks to create and advance the implementation of policies and practices supporting student mobility and transfer to improve access to post-secondary education in Canada. Its members include representatives of post-secondary institutions, industry, government and provincial and national associations dedicated to supporting and advancing learner mobility.

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About CUCCIO - https://www.cuccio.net/en/

CUCCIO is Canada's community of information technology leaders in higher education, working together to help Canadian universities excel through the innovative and effective use of IT. Incorporated in 2006, CUCCIO is the result of almost 40 years of information-sharing, collaboration, knowledge creation and advocacy among provincial and regional associations of IT leaders in post-secondary education. Today, CUCCIO is a non-profit, member-funded corporation representing more than 70 universities Canada-wide, who collectively serve over 90% of Canada's university students.

About CanPESC - https://www.pesc.org/canadian-pesc-user-group.html

CanPESC is a user group of the American based Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council. Its mandate is developing shared interoperability across Canadian post-secondary institutions and higher education by supporting the implementation of data exchange standards to facilitate learner mobility through data portability. Its members include Canadian colleges, universities, application centres, and government, and other organizations and industry partners involved in higher education data exchange.

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AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT:

ARUCC project chair and past-president, ARUCC – Charmaine Hack ARUCC executive lead – Joanne Duklas Digitary chief operating officer – James Murray-Beckman

MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

Joanne Duklas, executive lead, ARUCC. E: info@aruccnationalnetwork.ca Catherine Stanley, head of marketing, Digitary. E: catherine.stanley@digitary.net

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August 21, 2019

Formal Invitation for Delegates and Attendees
PESC Fall 2019 Data Summit
In Partnership with the Groningen Declaration Network (GDN)
October 22, 2019 – October 25, 2019
Montréal, Québec Canada

Dear Colleague:

On behalf of The Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada (ARUCC) and The Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC), we cordially invite you to attend the PESC Fall 2019 Data Summit, being held in partnership with the Groningen Declaration Network (GDN).

Through initiatives and discussions between ARUCC, GDN and PESC, the international voice has emerged as critical and paramount. It is both ARUCC's and PESC's mission to ensure the interoperability of education data, with the understanding the global interoperability is not only required, but achievable in the very near future.

As an important and respected organization, your participation would significantly enrich this convening. I encourage you to attend and plan engagement with all delegates attending from Australia, Canada, Europe, New Zealand and the United States of America.

All important information for the PESC Fall 2019 Data Summit is posted on the PESC website at https://www.pesc.org/fall-2019-data-summit.html, including the program, featured speakers, hotel/venue, and travel information and logistics.

We encourage you to join us for this unique and important convening. Should you have questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact either of us directly.

Thank you for your continued support and we hope to see you in Montréal in October!

Best Regards,

Romesh Wadivel

www.mcgill.ca

Romesh Vadivel
President
Association of Registrars of the
Universities and Colleges of Canada
(ARUCC)
Assistant Registrar and Director
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Michael D. Sessa

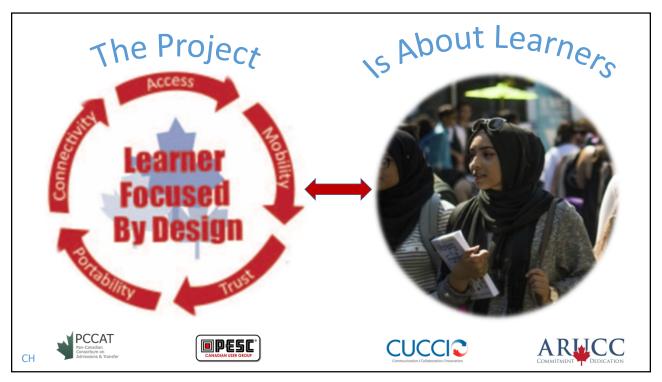
Michael D. Sessa President and CEO Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) www.pesc.org

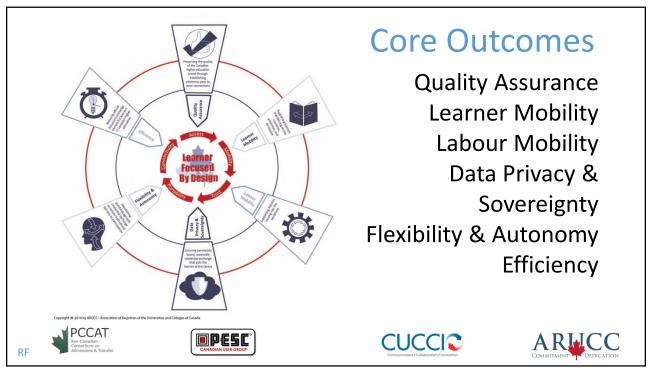




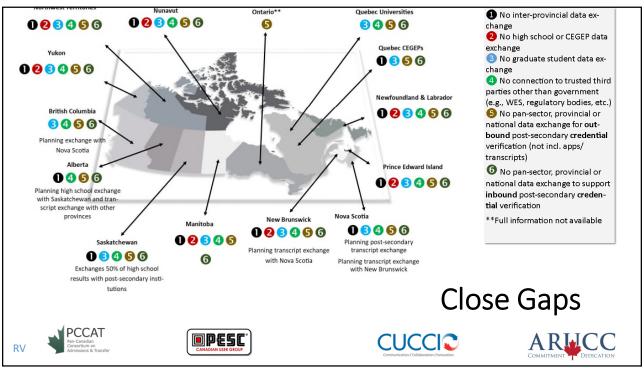


ARUCC Groningen & Student Mobility Project
Creating capacity for domestic and international mobility
and transfer for learners and Canadian high education
institutions by establishing a Pan-Canadian data exchange
network for student document and data sharing.



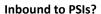






Address Service Failures





- Most documents arrive in non-useable format – close to 90% handled manually
- Inter-provincial mobility 6% to 19%+ growth
- In-bound international 154% growth in last 8 years
 - China, India, South Korea, US, France, Vietnam

Outbound to external third parties?

- Increased govt need to validate official offers - 47% increase in international study permits in last 8 years
- Confirmations of enrolment 40%+ increases across a host of services
- Confirmations of graduation 10%+ increase in graduates in last five years

Growing Learner Mobility
Increasing Document & Identity Fraud!











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Two Core Functionalities

- Creating a way for learners to view, curate, and share their credentials and documents whenever and with whomever they want
- Creating national level, official document and data exchange capacity for Canadian post-secondary institutions to enhance services provided for students - This involves establishing direct connections to trusted institutions and organizations across Canada and around the world.









JD 10

Business Cases - Document and Data Flows

IN-BOUND

- Post-secondary transcripts
- Credentials
- International documents

The 'How' and the 'What' can vary - Document/data exchange, blockchain, AI, etc.

PCCAT
Pan-Canadian
Consortium on
Admissions & Transfe



OUT-BOUND

- Post-secondary transcripts
- Credentials
- Status Documents
 - Offers of Admission
 - Confirmations of Enrolment (and fees paid)
 - Confirmations of pending or actual graduation





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Standards Agnostic Learner Centered Copyright © 2019 by ARUCC - Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada Copyright © 2019 by ARUCC - Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada Copyright © 2019 by ARUCC - Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada Copyright © 2019 by ARUCC - Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada Copyright © 2019 by ARUCC - Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada

What we need...

Learner Centered
Flexible
Agile
Interoperable
Standards Agnostic
Permission Based
Accessible
Efficient





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Where we're at

- Summer/Fall 2019: developing the purchasing and legal framework for the project; finalizing governance consultation process; developing a framework for identifying and working with pilot institutions and hubs; identifying and sourcing funds for the project.
- Much work to-date regarding governance consultation and legal support
- Technical Advisory Committee met biweekly from January to June, providing expertise and advice related to the technical aspects of the business case and RFP
- Full-day retreat scheduled for Friday Oct 25th
- RFP Committee established; expect to launch RFP in Fall 2019
- Fundraising continues, as does consultation

https://arucc.ca/uploads/Groningen/Groningen 2019/Consultation Page/ARUCC Groningen Project Update - Fall 2019 versoin 2019 10 08 FINAL.pdf









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Groningen Declaration Network 2021 Meeting: Ottawa Week of May 3, 2021 (2020 meeting: India)



- CONNECTING THE - NEW DIGITAL ECOSYSTEM



ARUCC National Network, EUROPASS Digital Credentials & Microcredentials

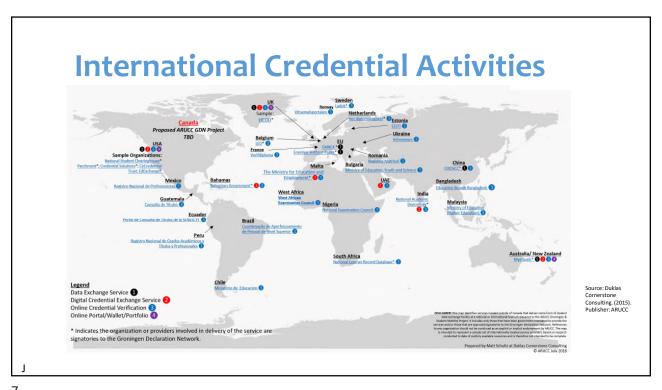
> Joanne Duklas, Anthony Camilleri, Simone Ravaioli

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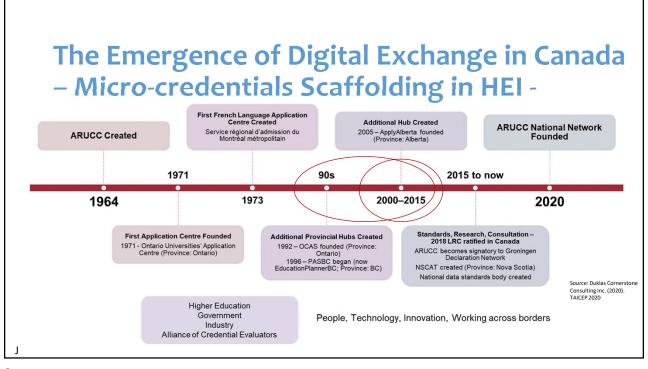
ARUCC Submission Packet

Session Expectations

- What examples exist to demonstrate the emergence of Credentials and Digital Information Across the Globe
- **ARUCC National Network** What is it? What value does it bring? Who's benefitting?
- **Europass Digital Credentials** Initiative What is it? What value does it bring? Who's benefitting?
- Micro-credentials What are they? What value do they bring? Who benefits?
- Interoperability How do we achieve this? Can mapping/cross-walking occur between PESC and EDCI? What is the value? Who benefits?



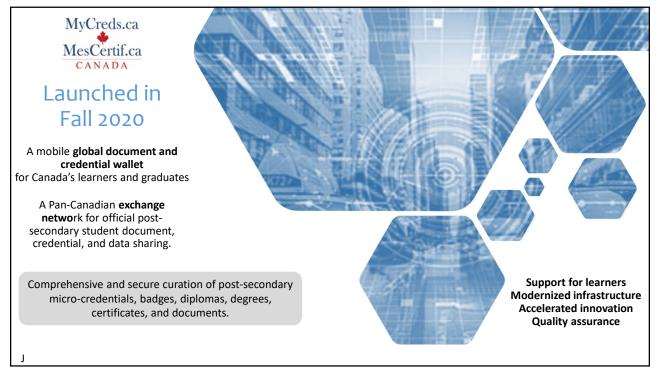
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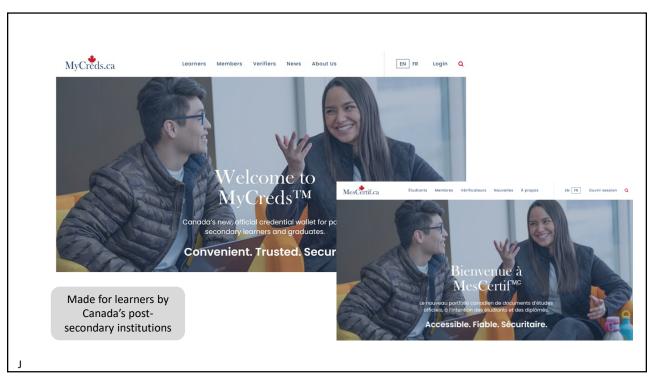




ARUCC National Network

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Why the Network?

Reasons

- Document fraud
- Credential confusion*
- Service challenges (e.g., COVID)
- Labour mobility
- Aging infrastructure
- Inefficient assessment practices**
- Inflexible systems
- * Receivers (employers, govt, other PSIs, etc.) are not always understanding the difference between the different types of credentials from the PSIs. Micro-credentials will grow, leading to greater confusion.
- $\ensuremath{^{\star\star}}$ Relying on paper-based documents and mail is resulting in delays in processing and impeding automation.

Benefits

- Time savings, control, and 24/7 access for learners – domestic and international
- Greater portability digitized credentials for learners – contactless support
- Quality Assurance
- · Credential and Document clarity
- Improved access to PSIs and jobs
- Shared, improved infrastructure
- Scalable efficiencies
- Agile implementation, technology, and data transformation capacities

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Strategic Benefits

- Ensuring seamless access for learners across the province to their documents and earned credentials through a comprehensive, innovative credential wallet
- Increasing support for all students, regardless of location both domestically and internationally
- Promoting transparency for students
- Saving students time and money
- Supporting government fiscal responsibility through shared service provision and collaboration
- Supporting labour mobility
- Supporting innovative and agile responses to COVID 19 challenges

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Accomplishments to Date

Summer 2020

- Two ON pilot schools launched
- A+ rating security testing of core by experts

Ryerson & Seneca (examples)

11,000 digitized parchments;
 7,300 digitized transcripts
 provided to learners through
 the credential wallet

Fall 2020 Launched Fully Bilingual Network

- Learner Credential Wallet
- Website
- Platform core
- Organizational Environments
- Close of 60 schools in various onboarding stages

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