

National Academic Mobility

Problem

Canada does not have a national post-secondary education framework which puts Canada at an economic disadvantage in the global knowledge economy.

Solutions

- Develop, in collaboration with provincial and territorial governments, a national education and training strategy which establishes common goals and objectives for post-secondary education and provides strategies that would best serve the interests of learners, society and the economy.
- Establish, in collaboration with provincial and territorial governments, national mechanisms to measure the effectiveness of Canada's national education system.
- Encourage and support the development and design of a national credentials framework and accreditation system to enhance and facilitate the national transferability of credits, encourage student mobility and increase international recognition

Background

Canada, unique in the top 30 OECD countries, does not have a national education strategy supported by a national credential framework and accreditation system. The absence of a national strategy and the mechanisms necessary to facilitate better access, responsiveness and accountability puts Canada at an economic disadvantage in the global knowledge economy.

A large segment of those graduating with post-secondary credentials are doing so from institutes which offer applied business/technological and applied research skills to their students. Although there are three publicly-funded providers of post-secondary education in Canada -polytechnics, community colleges, and universities – there is limited transferability among them, inadequate prior learning assessment arrangements and in some cases systemic resistance to recognizing a wide array of credentials and pathways to post-secondary education.

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