



**FORWARD
TOGETHER**

CESBA Conference 2024
December 4-5
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

**AVANCER
ENSEMBLE**

Conférence de CESBA 2024
4-5 décembre
CÉLÉBRONS NOS 25 ANS

Adult Correspondence Online Resource Network (ACORN)

What is it all about?

With

Lori Ribeiro & Jon Procter

Introductions

Lori Ribeiro – Program Officer,
Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board

@ lori.ribeiro@dpcdsb.org

Over 22+ years in education, including experience at in elementary, secondary, corporate and, for the last seven plus years in Adult and Continuing Education. As the Program Officer Lori coordinates the technical aspects of all credit and non-credit programs offered at DPCDSB. Bridging gaps for all learners is imperative, this is one reason Lori continues to learn and grow in her position, so we can continue to offer enhanced programming for all our learners. Working with CESBA and OeLc helps us to bring all School Boards and learners together.

Jon Procter – Executive Director, OeLC

@ execdir@oelc.ca

Originally comes from Stoke on Trent in the UK. He has over 30 years of experience as an educator working in both the UK and Canada. With five years experience in the Alternative, Adult and Continuing Education portfolio at Greater Essex County, Jon is a strong advocate for the benefits of Continuing Education.

As Executive Director of the Ontario eLearning Consortium, Jon's passion for online learning and Continuing Education supports the work of CESBA.



FORWARD
TOGETHER

AVANCER
ENSEMBLE

cesba 

QUESTIONS

ACORN - CESBA Presentation
Questions



What is ACORN?

- Adult Correspondence Online Resource Network (ACORN) is a group of School Boards working with OeLC (PRISM) to offer 18+ learners additional course options.
- A single School Board cannot offer the diversity of online course options that are required by all its students.
- This network will bridge that gap (school year and summer).
- It will provide every School Board in Ontario the opportunity to offer additional programming for their 18+ learners through the eLearning world without requiring any additional staff but will gain additional funding.
- Allows students to meet their graduation online requirement.

FORWARD TOGETHER: CHAMPIONING ADULT EDUCATION FOR THE FUTURE

ACORN fulfills all sub-themes of the CESBA Conference

- Navigating the Future of Education and Technology in A&CE

Bridging the gap for course offerings in the online world.

Supports ongoing digital literacy for 18+ learners' innovative approaches to teaching and learning.

FORWARD TOGETHER: CHAMPIONING ADULT EDUCATION FOR THE FUTURE

- A&CE and Employment Connections

by providing more opportunities to Learner's graduation rates will continue to increase

fostering Learner self-esteem and confidence while they work towards achieving their OSSD.

this in turn increases employment opportunities for all learners

providing pathways to further education, and skills development initiatives.

FORWARD TOGETHER: CHAMPIONING ADULT EDUCATION FOR THE FUTURE

- Diverse Perspectives and Pathways

by offering online courses in collaboration with OeLC, ACORN can bridge gaps for all learners

this would provide opportunities that was not previously available

provides equity and inclusion in A&CE, and pathways to success for diverse learners.

FORWARD TOGETHER: CHAMPIONING ADULT EDUCATION FOR THE FUTURE

- A&CE Fundamentals

ACORN supports learners to offer opportunities that would not normally be easy for them to find

Learners in Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) would benefit by being able to complete their final 4 courses that much quicker

Providing Learners more opportunities and supports will ultimately help build self-esteem, confidence and improved mental health.

What does each Adult Credit Program look like?

School Board	Terms Semesters	Term Length	Course Offerings	Calendar	Teachers (Grid/Non Grid/Markers)
A	5 terms	7.5 weeks	Both AM/PM	September - June	ConEd Teachers paid hourly
B	2 Semesters 2 terms in each	4 month terms			Grid Teachers
C	6 terms	7 weeks (37 days)	AM/PM/Online	September - August	Permanent to the Board Non-Grid Teachers
D	6 terms	4 weeks (31 days)		September - June	Markers
E	6 terms	6 weeks	AM	September - June	
F	6 terms				
G	4 terms		AM/PM/Online		
H	4 terms		AM/PM	September - June	



How does it work?

- Each School Board would offer programs to which they run as usual (course, timelines, etc.)
- Course offerings can then be offered to learners from other School Boards to fill available seats.
- Additionally, courses that School Boards cancel due to low enrollment may now actually become viable course offerings.
- What if a student needs a different course, time offering, or teacher support (markers vs teacher availability) that you do not offer?

ACORN to the rescue!!

- Register the Learner into PRISM for the course they need.
- Another School Board that has an available course that meets the needs of the Learner, will register them in their course.
- This allows the Learner to continue to work on credit completion and ultimately their OSSD. **WIN!**
- This allows the home board to offer a wealth of additional courses to their learners with no cost to them. **WIN!**
- This allows the receiving board to earn funding \$\$ for a student that may not have been able to find their program previously. **WIN!**

ACORN Timelines

- During this workshop we will explore as many of the possibilities for Learner and Schools Boards by collaborating with ACORN.
- As we know Adult and Continuing Education varies in every school board with few to none running an identical program and course offerings

ACORN Timelines

The learning opportunities open to our 18+ learners will continue to grow.

January 2025 - Initial Pilot (4 confirmed school boards, **opportunity for 1 more**)

February – August 2025 – Data and processes from the pilot are monitored, reviewed and adjusted as needed.

2025-2026 – additional school boards to be added.

Outcomes

- Bringing awareness of this new and exciting opportunity for Adult and Continuing Education Learners
- Bridging the gap (school year and summer) in A&CE course offerings and continued technological advancements.
- Providing more opportunities to Learners
- Graduation rates will continue to rise.
- Supports ongoing digital literacy for 18+ learners
- Fostering learner self-esteem, confidence
- Providing pathways to further education, and skills development initiatives.
- Provides equity and inclusion in A&CE, and pathways to success for diverse learners.

QUESTIONS

ACORN - CESBA Presentation
Questions



Tell us what you think!

Visit:

www.cesba.com/2024surveys

or use the QR code to share feedback on this workshop.



Coming up - Workshops block C | À suivre - Atelier bloc C

1:30 PM – 2:35 PM

C1 - The Best of Blended Learning	Rossetti
C2 - Those Who Lead Must First Learn to Serve: Centering Equity in our Leadership Practices	Mountbatten B
C3 - Inclusion and Employment Awareness: Building an Employment Transition Path for Students with Developmental/Intellectual Disabilities	Scott
C4 - Sharing Our Stories, Experiences, and Ideas: Professional Learning for Adult Educators in a Changing World of Work	Wren
C5 - Pardon Me, Your AI is Showing: The Impact of Generative AI	Mountbatten A

Thank you

Merci



FORWARD
TOGETHER

AVANCER
ENSEMBLE

cesba 

cesba.com



FORWARD TOGETHER

CESBA Conference 2024

December 4-5

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

AVANCER ENSEMBLE

Conférence de CESBA 2024

4-5 décembre

CÉLÉBRONS NOS 25 ANS