

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Facts 2020

RPL PRACTICES AT RED RIVER COLLEGE

- **Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)** is a process that involves the identification, documentation, assessment and recognition of formal (specifically transfer credit), informal and non-formal learning acquired through education, work and life experience. RRC evaluates and grants credit for qualifying previous formal, informal and non-formal learning that is equivalent to learning outcomes in College courses or programs.
- RPL activities and statistics are provided in the **RPL Annual Report 2020** which is available on the RPL Standards and Reporting section of the Staff Forum - www.rrc.ca/RPLservices
- In the past five years, **3660 RPL course assessments** were conducted for close to **1960 students**. In addition, 7041 transfer credits were awarded for previous formal learning.
- In 2018-19, **796 RPL course assessments** were conducted for **287 students**. The success rate in RPL leading to credit recognition was very high, at 99%. The most common methods used in assessing prior learning included: RPL combo approach including formal + informal learning; challenge examinations; RPL plus additional learning to address learning gaps; assignments and portfolio assessment. In addition, 1,193 transfer credits for formal learning were awarded.
- The total number of students accessing any type of RPL process (including transfer credit), was 857 during the past year. Over 33% of these students (287) received course credit for proven informal and non-formal learning gained through work and life experiences. This includes courses completed through business, industry and other organizations.
- In 2018-19, **38 RRC programs** (full and part-time) conducted RPL assessments. Examples of programs conducting numerous RPL assessments include: Nursing, Early Childhood Education, Disability and Community Support, Early Childhood Education (ECE) Workplace and Educational Assistant.
- There were 128 RPL assessments for Work Integrated Learning (WIL) experiences including practicum, clinical, field placements and co-op work experiences in a variety of programs.
- In 2018-19 the **RPL Advisor in Enrolment Services** provided information, advising and orientations for 608 individuals, with over 124 students receiving assistance to develop action plans, complete self-assessments and prepare for assessments. Additional students received RPL advising through program RPL advisors and faculty.
- An RPL flag/icon (**RPL**) designates courses in College programs which have RPL processes and assessments available. Currently more than **345 courses** for **79 programs** are designated with the RPL flag (**RPL**). RPL information is available for students on the website (www.rrc.ca/rpl).
- Course Based Registration (CBR) supports customization of education to meet students' needs and interests. One of the benefits identified for students is "Increased recognition for prior learning". RPL activity is anticipated to increase as students demonstrate their competence through RPL processes.

QUALITY IN RPL: SYSTEMS, RESOURCES & RPL TRAINING

- The **RPL Strategic and Operational Plan (2012-2017)** outlines the vision, goals and outcomes for quality RPL practice.
- The College's RPL Committee, comprised of representatives from academic programs and schools as well as from College service areas, met four times and began the renewal process of the RPL Strategic and Operational Plan.
- The **RPL HCA Equivalency Assessment** for employment purposes in Manitoba process and forms were updated.
- **RPL Resource Guides** are developed by faculty with guidance and support from RPL Services. The guides provide transparency for both faculty and students and include learning outcomes and assessment details. There are 110 RPL Resource Guides currently available for students. Recent RPL development and revisions occurred in the following programs - Human Resource Management, Business Administration and Industrial Electrical Education.
- The **RPL Assessment of External Courses** from Non Post-Secondary Institutions Manual was revised to reflect current practice.
- RPL Practitioner students are completing final program requirements through RRC's School of Continuing Education. In 2018-2019 three out of **four RPL Practitioner Certificate graduates** were International Students from Barbados.
- **PLAR-1200 RPL Foundation** is offered online annually through Continuing Education. More than **781** practitioners from Manitoba, Canada and other countries have completed the **RPL Foundation** course.
- RPL Services continues to support Manitoba Prior Learning Assessment Network (MPLAN) and the Canadian Association for Prior Learning Assessment (CAPLA).
- The RPL section on the **Staff Forum** (www.rrc.ca/RPLservices) is the "go to" source for faculty and staff. View **RPL - a Quick Reference Guide for Faculty and Staff**, **RPL Resource Guides** and contact RPL Services for assistance and/or additional information.

Please contact
RPL Services
AQ-RPL@rrc.ca or visit
www.rrc.ca/RPLservices
for a copy of the
Annual Report 2020.

