

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Facts 2021

RPL PRACTICES AT RED RIVER COLLEGE POLYTECHNIC

- **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 Polytech 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 2021** which is available on the RPL Standards and Reporting section of the Staff Forum - www.rrc.ca/RPLservices
- In the past five years, **3820 RPL course assessments** were conducted for close to **1706 students**. In addition, 6748 transfer credits were awarded for previous formal learning.
- In 2019-20 **1104 RPL course assessments** were conducted for **310 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; portfolio; skill demonstration; RPL plus additional learning to address learning gaps and challenge examinations. In addition, **1,005** transfer credits for formal learning were awarded.
- The total number of students accessing any type of RPL process (including transfer credit), was **738** during the past year. Over 42% of these students (310) 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 2019-20, **45 RRC Polytech 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, Certificate in Adult Education and Educational Assistant.
- There were **192** RPL assessments for Work Integrated Learning (WIL) experiences including practicum, clinical, field placements and co-op work experiences in a variety of programs.
- In 2019-20 the **RPL Advisor in Enrolment Services** provided information, advising and orientations for **570** individuals, with over **199** 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 () designates courses in College programs which have RPL processes and assessments available. Currently more than **361 courses** for **88 programs** are designated with the RPL flag (). 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 **College's RPL Committee**, comprised of representatives from academic programs and service areas, acts in an advisory capacity regarding recognition of prior learning processes, resources and issues. The committee met three times and began the renewal process of the [RPL Strategic and Operational Plan](#).
- RPL processes and forms for the National Advanced Placement and Prior Learning ([N-APPL](#)) and [RPL HCA Equivalency Assessment](#) were developed.
- [RPL Resource Guides](#) are developed by faculty with guidance and support from RPL Services. The guides provide transparency for both students and faculty and include learning outcomes and assessment details. There are **111** RPL Resource Guides currently available for students. Recent RPL development and revisions occurred in the following programs - Business Information Technology, Project Leadership and Occupational Health and Safety.
- One International Student from Barbados successfully completed program requirements to become a RPL Practitioner Certificate graduate!
- [PLAR-1200 RPL Foundation](#) is offered annually online through the School of Continuing Education. More than **785** 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).
- A consortium including Red River College Polytech, Humber College and NorQuest College was selected to implement a Thematic Partnership focused on RPL for the Young Africa Works-Kenya: Youth Employability Through TVET (Technical and Vocational Education and Training) project. This partnership is between Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan), the Mastercard Foundation, the Kenyan Ministry of Education and the private sector.
- 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](http://www.rrc.ca/RPLservices)
for a copy of the
Annual Report 2021.

