

Making Ontario #1 in Online Learning

July 2010

"Our goal is to make Ontario a leader in online education."

The Honourable John Milloy, Ontario's Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities and Minister of Research and Innovation

In fact, with more than 10,000 online courses and over 800 online programs from Ontario's publicly-funded colleges, universities and other education providers, Ontario is already #1 in Canada and in North America. To our knowledge, there is no other jurisdiction in North America that comes even close to matching our province's clear lead in the number of online program and course offerings.

Contact North/elearnnetwork.ca has interpreted the Government of Ontario's announcement of its intent to create the Ontario Online Institute as a call to action for the post-secondary sector to take online learning in Ontario the next level and to ensure Ontario maintains and enhances its leadership position in online learning.

At Contact North/elearnnetwork.ca, we are committed to working with Ontario's publicly funded-colleges, universities and other education providers as well as with the other building blocks of the Ontario online learning system (Ontario Learn, Ontario Council for University Lifelong Learning (OCULL), Independent Learning Centre, and ORION) and major technology providers to help make the Minister's and the Government of Ontario's vision a reality.

Part of Contact North/elearnnetwork.ca's ongoing mandate, and its [10 Action Steps](#) to support the online learning sector, is the continued hosting of an online search engine containing information on the over 10,000 online courses and over 800 online programs currently available from Ontario's publicly-funded colleges, universities and other education providers.

Since 2008, students and prospective students from across Ontario have 24/7 access to this search engine along with delivery and local support available at each of Contact North/elearnnetwork.ca's 112 centres located in communities across Ontario.

Today, Contact North/elearnnetwork.ca is launching a re-branded search engine, The Ontario Online Learning Portal, and a new website address, www.click4onlinelearning.ca, providing one click access to this one-of-a-kind resource for students and prospective students.

[The Ontario Online Learning Portal](#) is the only online, searchable database of online programs and courses currently available from Ontario's publicly-funded colleges, universities and other education providers.

At www.click4onlinelearning.ca:

- 1) Students and prospective students can perform keyword searches within the database for both programs and courses.
- 2) Searches can be filtered by program, course, institution, institution type and language.
- 3) Search results can be printed as well as saved to a "My Options" tool which allows the student and prospective student to save interested search results for viewing at a later time.

4) Students and prospective students who require further information or wish to register are directed to one of our 112 centres via our toll-free number and to colleges and universities.

Over the past year, the search engine has generated significant traffic with 53,147 unique users to the site, spending an average of 3 minutes and 7 seconds and viewing 4.13 pages.

Over the next several months, Contact North/elearnnetwork.ca will introduce new functionality to [the Ontario Online learning portal](#) to enable students and prospective students to search by field of study, better filter their search results, and improve the process to collect and update online program and course offerings from Ontario's publicly-funded colleges, universities and other education providers.

As Contact North/elearnnetwork.ca moves forward with additional initiatives as part of our [10 Action Steps](#), look for additional announcements during the next few months as we do our part to support taking online learning in Ontario to the next level.

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