



[Home](#) | [Innovation Projects](#) | [Project](#)

Project Connect: Technology-enabled learning for Métis communities

The project

Partners

Royal Roads University

Participants Métis people in B.C.

Locations

[British Columbia](#)

Additional Partners

Métis Nation British Columbia, RaceRocks 3D

Topics

Career Services
Inclusive Economy
Skills Training
Tech and Automation

Related Tags

[digital literacy](#),
[distance learning](#),
[indigenous](#),
[indigenous populations](#),
[online learning](#),
[post-secondary education](#),
[tool development](#)

Project
Connect
is
a
unique,
employment-
focused
program
delivering
professional
project
administrator
training
for
Métis
students.
As
the
fastest
growing
population
in
Canada,
Indigenous
people
are
well-
placed
to
help
address
labour
shortages
in
British
Columbia
and
elsewhere.
However,
47%
of
unemployed
Métis
peoples
said
a
lack
of
sufficient
education
or
training
was
a
barrier
to
employment.

Project
Connect
began
in
BC
and
is
expanding
to
new
audiences
inside
and
outside
BC,
in
partnership
with
BC
First
Nations
and
a
Métis
community
outside
of
the
province.
Relevant,
directly
applicable
training
in
project
administration,
along
with
cultural
components
and
wraparound
supports
result
in
high
completion
and
employment
rates.

The Future Skills Centre is investing an additional \$1.4 million in Project Connect II to address barriers to employment faced by Indigenous people. This follows a \$1.3 million investment in the early phase, which designed and tested the online delivery of the program.



**Skills
training
/
career
services
provided**

Royal
Roads
University
partnered
with
Métis
Nation
BC
to
develop
and
deliver
this
innovative
online
training
program
which
includes
courses
in
project
management,
proposal
writing,
budgeting,
MS
Office
Suite
for
project
administrators,
data
management,
reporting,
communication
and
presentation
skills,
as
well
as
coaching
and
mentoring
supports
for
students.

Utilizing technology to enable learning in an online environment became a key driver of student success. Teaching around real-world workplace or community issues as well as a Métis mentor component also reinforced student engagement and success in the program and the job market.

Early results

The first phase of the project, delivered to Métis students online due to the pandemic, led to a 98% completion rate, increased personal confidence, strong employment levels, and a high degree of cultural rejuvenation and reconnection. The integration of Métis knowledge-building and activities contributes to a powerful student experience, positive outcomes and student retention. Over 80% of the student participants in the first phase became employed

and
stated
that
they
consistently
apply
skills
learned
in
the
program,
highlighting
the
training
as
essential
to
securing
fulfilling
employment.

Next phase

The
next
phase
plans
to
weave
Indigenous
culture
more
deeply
into
program
content
and
could
bring
the
program
to
60
additional
Indigenous
students
in
western
Canada,
including
a
Métis
community
outside
of
BC.

Evaluation Strategy

This project will be evaluated using tools and approaches aligned with its goals, context, and stage of development. The evaluation will focus on generating the right evidence at the right moment to move the intervention forward. [Read more about our evaluation strategy.](#)



The Future Skills Centre acknowledges that the Anishinaabe, Mississaugas and Haudenosaunee share a special relationship to the 'Dish With One Spoon Territory,' where our office is located, bound to share and protect the land. As a pan-Canadian initiative, FSC operates on the traditional territory of many Indigenous nations across Turtle Island, the name given to the North American continent by some Indigenous peoples. We are grateful for the opportunity to work in this territory and commit ourselves to learning about our shared history and doing our part towards reconciliation.

© Copyright 2024 – Future Skills Centre / Centre des Compétences futures