

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

## COLLEGE TRANSFERBILITY NETWORK

## SEPTEMBER 5, 2013

**Preamble:** Assiniboine Community College, Canadore College, Loyalist College, North Island College, Nova Scotia Community College, Portage College, Red River College, Winnipeg Technical College and Algonquin College recognize that there are collective and mutual benefits in collaborating to expand opportunity for military personnel and their family members who are taking college courses/programs to maximize the transfer of course/program credits for individuals moving between colleges. The network outlined here is intended to work together to foster an environment of barrier-free student mobility and maximum recognition of prior learning and work experience for military personnel and their family members who are attending one of the member colleges.

**Objective:** The objective of this network agreement is to establish a commitment to collaborative planning and coordination of programs, services, prior learning recognition criteria and assessment processes and joint activities that will:

- support the development of a coordinated and complementary network of public colleges serving the needs of military personnel and their families;
- build linked program pathways and bridging courses that enable military personnel and their family members to transfer easily from one college to another; and
- build service networks that support student mobility for military personnel and their families.

**Context:** Participation in the network of institutions established through this agreement is voluntary on the part of each institution. The network agreement is not intended to be a formal or binding (contractual) agreement but rather the establishment of a network of colleges that have the common purpose of supporting and enhancing barrier-free student mobility and maximization of transfer credits for military personnel and their family members who are enrolled at one of the member colleges.

## **Purpose and Activities**

This network of institutions is intended to provide a broad range of learning opportunities that support and enable military personnel and their families who are attending college to achieve their academic and/or technical and trades training goals as quickly as possible. Signatories to this MOU will strive to build learning pathways that support student success through efficient and timely program completion and to create an atmosphere and conditions to support positive change within the Canadian post-secondary education system.

It is intended that this MOU will complement the mission of each college. Signatories to the MOU agree to:

- be involved in periodical teleconference, email or face-to-face meetings to discuss shared issues/needs relative to serving military personnel and to explore possible joint ventures;
- establish a MOU with the military base(s) in close proximity to their college and will maintain regular communication with the Personnel Selection Officer;
- support and promote recognition of prior learning (RPL) practices for the assessment of formal, informal and non-formal learning relevant to College programs for Canadian Forces personnel and their families, across/between member Colleges;
- accept for equal credit value in an applicable program at the receiving institution, any current equivalent learning previously assessed through prior learning assessment and recognition (PLAR) at a member college;
- share resources relevant to quality RPL/PLAR processes, practices and initiatives with member Colleges to support increased mobility for Canadian Forces personnel and their families;
- define and build pathways that support learners to move between technical and trades programs, certificate, diploma and degree programs offered by the signatories to this MOU; and
- commit to taking the lead on the development of a minimum of one program transfer pathway between the member colleges.

**Specific Agreements:** Each formal collaborative venture, project or bi-lateral agreement that emerges from this network of colleges shall be defined through a separate Memorandum of Understanding that outlines specific terms such as: the responsibilities of each member institution, the duration of the agreement, financial and other resource-related commitments, evaluation and reporting structures, and any processes relevant to the conduct and conclusion of collaborative endeavors.

**Communication:** Each participating institution in the network agrees to support communication on issues of mutual interest between institutions and where relevant across all institutions in the network.

**Partners to the Agreement:** 

Mark Frison President Assiniboine Community College

George Burton President and CEO Canadore College

Mouree Hercy

Maureen Piercy President Loyalist College

Don Bur<u>eaux</u> President and CEO Nova Scotia Community College

Stephanie Forsyth President and CEO Red River College

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Kent MacDonald President and CEO Algonquin College

John Bowman President North Island College

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Trent Keough President and CEO Portage College

John Bobbette President and CEO Winnipeg Technical College