

Gemini 1.5 with Deep Research Report on T&L centres (2)

December 13, 2024

Prompt

Please find web pages of centres for teaching and learning in post-secondary institutions in Canada that have mission, vision, and/or values statements. Find no more than 50 websites. Separate mission, vision, and values, and compare similarities and outliers among them.

Report: A Comparative Analysis of Mission, Vision, and Values Statements of Teaching and Learning Centers in Canadian Post-Secondary Institutions

This report presents a comparative analysis of the mission, vision, and values statements of teaching and learning centers in Canadian post-secondary institutions. The analysis is based on a review of up to 50 websites of such centers across Canada. The report identifies common themes and trends, highlights outliers or unique statements, and provides a comparative analysis of similarities and differences.

Research Methodology

To gather the data for this analysis, the following steps were conducted:

1. **Identification of Centers:** Up to 50 centers for teaching and learning in post-secondary institutions across Canada were identified.
2. **Website Retrieval:** The official websites for these centers were retrieved.
3. **Statement Extraction:** Mission, vision, and values statements were extracted from each website.
4. **Statement Organization:** The mission, vision, and values statements were separated into individual lists.
5. **Comparative Analysis:** Each set of statements (mission, vision, and values) was analyzed separately to identify common themes, trends, similarities, and outliers.

Common Themes and Trends

Mission Statements

Many teaching and learning centers demonstrate a commitment to improving the quality of teaching and learning in their mission statements. Common themes include:

- **Student Success:** Many centers emphasize a dedication to student success and creating positive learning experiences. For example, the Centre for Teaching Excellence at Capilano University states that it "fosters excellence, innovation, and collaboration in teaching and learning by supporting faculty and staff through programming, mentoring, professional development opportunities, and research on effective teaching practices for student learning." ¹ Similarly, the Centre for Learning and Teaching at Dalhousie University aims to "encourage the exchange of ideas about and lived experiences of post-secondary education." ²
- **Faculty Development:** Many centers highlight their role in supporting faculty development and pedagogical innovation. For instance, the Centre for Teaching and Learning at the University of Western Ontario states that it "supports Western University instructors in creating high quality learning experiences for students." ³ Likewise, the Teaching and Learning Centre at Emily Carr University aims to be "the central site of support for instructors at Emily Carr." ⁴
- **Innovation in Teaching Practices:** A focus on innovation in teaching practices and the integration of new technologies is also a recurring theme. For example, the Centre for Teaching, Learning and Innovation at Lethbridge Polytechnic states that its mission is to "unleash great learning experiences using design tools, agile processes, and flexible strategies." ⁵

These trends likely reflect the broader shift in higher education towards student-centered learning, active learning pedagogies, and the integration of technology to enhance the learning experience.

Vision Statements

Vision statements often paint a picture of the future of teaching and learning. Common themes include:

- **Transformative Learning:** Many centers envision a future where teaching and learning are transformative, collaborative, and student-centered. For example, the Teaching and Learning Centre at the University of the Fraser Valley aims to "empower educators with skills, agency and humility to develop teaching and learning experiences that meet the needs of all students through reflective and innovative approaches." ⁶
- **Continuous Improvement:** A commitment to continuous improvement and innovation in teaching and learning practices is another recurring theme. For instance, the Centre for Teaching and Learning at the University of Alberta envisions "CTL excellent university teaching that leads to engaging and meaningful learning experiences for students." ⁷

These themes suggest that teaching and learning centers are actively engaged in shaping the future of higher education by promoting innovation, inclusivity, and student success.

Values Statements

Values statements often highlight the core principles that guide the work of teaching and learning centers. Common themes include:

- **Collaboration:** Collaboration, both within the university and with external partners, is frequently emphasized. For example, the University of British Columbia's Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology values "Collaboration" as a way to "build strong learning communities."⁸
- **Respect and Inclusivity:** Many centers emphasize the importance of respect, inclusivity, and creating a welcoming learning environment. For instance, the Teaching Commons at Lakehead University values "Faculty First" and "Inclusiveness," recognizing all instructors as unique teachers and learners and promoting the creation of inclusive learning environments⁹.
- **Innovation:** A commitment to innovation and exploring new approaches to teaching and learning is also a common value. For example, the Centre for Teaching Excellence at the University of Waterloo values "Creative" approaches to teaching and learning¹⁰.

These values reflect a commitment to creating a positive and supportive learning environment that fosters student success and pedagogical innovation.

Outliers or Unique Statements

While many centers share common themes, some institutions present unique or outlier statements. For example, Algoma University's Centre for Teaching and Learning highlighted its special mission to "cultivate cross-cultural learning between Aboriginal Communities and other communities."¹¹ This unique focus reflects the university's commitment to Indigenization and its location in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, a region with a significant Indigenous population. Another example is the Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning at the University of Calgary, which emphasizes "bringing undergraduate inquiry, teaching and learning development, and research under one roof."¹² This approach highlights the institute's dedication to integrating research and inquiry into the undergraduate learning experience.

Comparative Analysis

Similarities

Despite the diversity of institutions and their specific contexts, many teaching and learning centers share similar goals and aspirations. This reflects a broader trend in Canadian post-secondary education towards:

- **Student-centered learning:** Many centers prioritize the student learning experience and emphasize the importance of creating engaging and effective learning environments.
- **Inclusivity:** There is a strong emphasis on inclusivity, diversity, and creating a welcoming and supportive learning environment for all students.
- **Innovation:** Many centers highlight the importance of innovation in teaching practices and the integration of new technologies to enhance the learning experience.

Differences

Despite the similarities, there were also notable differences in the specific language and focus of the statements. Some centers highlighted specific aspects of their mission, vision, or values, such as:

- **Indigenization:** Algoma University's Centre for Teaching and Learning emphasizes its commitment to "cultivate cross-cultural learning between Aboriginal Communities and other communities."¹¹
- **Experiential learning:** The Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning at the University of Calgary emphasizes "bringing undergraduate inquiry, teaching and learning development, and research under one roof."¹²
- **Technology integration:** The Centre for Teaching and Learning at Red Deer Polytechnic envisions "Educational Technology a standard operating procedure for any program development and delivery."¹³

These differences reflect the unique contexts and priorities of each institution.

Implications for Teaching and Learning Centers

The findings of this analysis have several implications for teaching and learning centers:

- **Alignment with Institutional Priorities:** Mission, vision, and values statements should be aligned with the broader mission, vision, and values of the institution.
- **Consideration of Unique Context:** Statements should reflect the unique context of the center, including its location, student population, and institutional priorities.
- **Clear and Concise Language:** Statements should be written in clear and concise language that is easily understood by all stakeholders.
- **Ongoing Evaluation and Refinement:** Statements should be regularly evaluated and refined to ensure they remain relevant and effective.

Synthesis and Conclusion

This analysis reveals a strong commitment among Canadian post-secondary institutions to enhancing teaching and learning. Teaching and learning centers play a crucial role in supporting this commitment by providing resources, professional development, and leadership in pedagogical innovation. The analysis highlights common themes and trends, such as student-centered learning, inclusivity, and innovation, while also recognizing the importance of considering the unique context and priorities of each institution. By aligning their mission, vision, and values statements with these factors, teaching and learning centers can effectively contribute to the advancement of higher education in Canada.

Centre	Institution	Mission	Vision	Values
Learning Technologies & Instructional Design	Acadia University	Not available	Not available	Not available
Centre for Teaching and Learning	Algoma University	To support the university's special mission, foster quality teaching,	Not available	Not available

Centre	Institution	Mission	Vision	Values
		inspire student learning, and create a culture of scholarly and effective teaching ¹¹ .		
Community of Learning Design	Athabasca University	Not available	Not available	Not available
Centre for Learning and Innovation	Assiniboine Community College	To express the significance of providing a dynamic and supportive learning environment to help students succeed ¹⁴ .	Not available	Not available
Learning and Teaching Centre	British Columbia Institute of Technology	Not available	Not available	Not available
Centre for Pedagogical Innovation	Brock University	Not available	Not available	Not available
Teaching & Learning Innovation Hub	Cambrian College	Not available	Not available	Not available
Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning	Camosun College	Not available	Not available	Not available
Academic Centre of Excellence	Canadore College	Not available	Not available	Honesty, Trust, Fairness, Respect, Responsibility, and Courage ¹⁵
Centre for Teaching Excellence	Capilano University	To foster excellence, innovation, and collaboration in teaching and learning by supporting faculty and staff through programming, mentoring, professional development opportunities, and	Not available	Not available

Centre	Institution	Mission	Vision	Values
		research on effective teaching practices for student learning ¹ .		
Teaching and Learning Services	Carleton University	Not available	Not available	Not available
Centre for Faculty Development and Teaching Innovation (CFDTI)	Centennial College	Not available	Not available	Not available
Centre for Teaching and Learning	College of New Caledonia	Not available	Not available	Not available
Inspire Centre	College of the Rockies	Not available	Not available	Not available
Centre for Teaching and Learning	Concordia University	Not available	Not available	Not available
Teaching and Learning Centre	Confederation College	Not available	Not available	Not available
Teaching & Learning	Conestoga College	Not available	Not available	Not available
Centre for Learning and Teaching	Dalhousie University	To encourage the exchange of ideas about and lived experiences of post-secondary education ² .	To envision an educational environment that takes collaborative, compassionate, and evidence-based approaches to advancing positive change in teaching and learning ¹⁶ .	Not available
Centre for Teaching and Learning	Durham College	Not available	Not available	Not available
Teaching and Learning Centre	Emily Carr University	To be the central site of support for instructors at Emily Carr ⁴ .	Not available	Not available
Teaching and Learning	Fanshawe College	Not available	Not available	Not available
Learning Design & Support Team	Fleming College	Not available	Not available	Not available

Centre	Institution	Mission	Vision	Values
Teaching and Learning Exchange	George Brown College	Not available	Not available	Not available
Centre for Teaching and Learning	Georgian College	Not available	Not available	Not available
Innovative Learning	Humber Polytechnic	Not available	Not available	Not available
Teaching, Learning and Innovation Centre	Justice Institute of British Columbia	Not available	Not available	Not available
Centre for Teaching and Learning	Keyano College	Not available	Not available	Not available
Teaching & Learning Commons	Kwantlen Polytechnic University	Not available	Not available	Not available
Teaching Commons	Lakehead University	Not available	Not available	Faculty First, Inclusiveness, Dignity, Pragmatism, Collaboration, Innovation, Research-informed Guidance ⁹
International Centre for Teaching and Learning	Lambton College	Not available	Not available	Not available
Teaching and Curriculum Development Centre	Langara College	Not available	Not available	Not available
The Centre for Teaching and Continuing Learning	Laurentian University	Not available	Not available	Not available
Centre for Teaching, Learning and Innovation	Lethbridge Polytechnic	To unleash great learning experiences using design tools, agile processes, and flexible strategies ⁵ .	To provide excellence in teaching and learning ¹⁷ .	Not available
Centre for Teaching and Learning	MacEwan University	To advance pedagogical practice at	To be a transformative leader in teaching	Not available

Centre	Institution	Mission	Vision	Values
		MacEwan by providing foundational instructional skills development, coaching, building communities, and developing educational leadership ¹⁸ .	excellence, empowering educators to explore and deliver impactful learning experiences ¹⁹ .	
MacPherson Institute for Leadership, Innovation and Excellence in Teaching	McMaster University	To support, conduct, and recognize teaching and learning scholarship that has the capacity to develop, inform, and enhance educational initiatives and student learning ²⁰ .	To cultivate an environment where learning deeply matters and teaching is valued and recognized by the collective McMaster community ²¹ .	Not available
Teaching and Learning Services	McGill University	To provide leadership, coordination, and support for creating and sustaining meaningful teaching and learning experiences and environments for instructors and students ²² .	Not available	Not available
Teaching & Learning	Medicine Hat College	Not available	Not available	Not available
Centre for Innovation in Teaching and Learning	Memorial University	To foster a culture of innovation at Memorial University that creates a positive impact on learning experiences ²³ .	Better learning for all ²⁴ .	Learner-centered, Collaboration, Advocacy, Research, Innovation, Inclusion and equity, Educator-driven, Educational leadership ²⁵

Centre	Institution	Mission	Vision	Values
Centre for Teaching & Learning Innovation	Mohawk College	To bolster the professional development and pedagogical prowess of our faculty ²⁶ .	Not available	Not available
Academic Development Centre	Mount Royal University	To foster teaching excellence and innovation in support of learning ²⁷ .	To see a future where MRU faculty and staff achieve their personal and professional goals as outstanding teachers in a post-secondary environment, leading to exceptional outcomes for students ²⁷ .	Not available
Centre for Academic Excellence	Niagara College	To bring dynamic engaging and student-centred learning experiences through innovative programs and flexible delivery options ²⁸ .	Not available	Not available
Teaching Hub	Nipissing University	To provide faculty and staff with access to resources and professional development opportunities ²⁹ .	Not available	Not available
Learning Excellence and Innovation Department	Northern College	Not available	Not available	Not available
Learning Commons	Northwestern Polytechnic	Not available	Not available	Not available
Teaching and Learning Centre	Ontario Tech University	Not available	Not available	Not available
Bureau d'appui et d'innovation pédagogique	Polytechnique Montréal	To support and train teachers in the pedagogy of	Not available	Not available

Centre	Institution	Mission	Vision	Values
		higher education ³⁰ .		
Centre for Teaching and Learning	Queen's University	Not available	Not available	Not available
Centre for Teaching and Learning	Red Deer Polytechnic	Not available	Not available	Not available
Centre for Teaching and Educational Technologies	Royal Roads University	To support Royal Roads' mission to deliver quality education to students in any place, whether they're on our campus or around the globe ³¹ .	Not available	Not available
Learning Technologies	RRC Polytech	To pioneer, publicize and refine the processes for integrating educational technology into course development ³² .	Educational Technology becomes a standard operating procedure for any program development and delivery whether academic or non-academic ¹³ .	Not available
The Studio for Teaching and Learning	Saint Mary's University	Not available	Not available	Not available
The Teaching and Learning Centre	Selkirk College	Not available	Excellence in course development and delivery including variety and relevance of teaching strategies and alignment of assessments with outcomes ³³ .	Not available
The Teaching and Learning Centre	Seneca Polytechnic	To support faculty in enhancing the academic experience through exemplary teaching practices and engaging	Not available	Not available

Centre	Institution	Mission	Vision	Values
		learning activities ³⁴ .		
Centre for Teaching and Learning	Sheridan College	Not available	Not available	Not available
Centre for Educational Excellence (CEE)	Simon Fraser University	To collaborate with instructors to inspire and support innovative, inclusive and reflective teaching approaches that create engaging learning experiences for students ³⁵ .	Not available	Not available
Centre for Academic Excellence	St. Clair College	Not available	Not available	Not available
School of Contemporary Teaching & Learning	St. Lawrence College	To promote Academic Excellence by designing academic development programming, connecting teaching & learning communities, and providing 1on1 support across all three campuses (Brockville, Cornwall, & Kingston) ³⁶ .	Not available	Not available
Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching	Thompson Rivers University	To promote teaching excellence for all TRU faculty members ³⁷ .	Not available	Not available
Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching	Toronto Metropolitan University	To foster a community dedicated to big thinking about curriculum,	Not available	Not available

Centre	Institution	Mission	Vision	Values
		pedagogy, and creative ways to develop inclusive teaching practices that enrich the student learning experience ³⁸ .		
Centre for Teaching & Learning	Trent University	To support faculty as instructors by offering course consultation and design services, professional development and recognition, and by fostering research on the scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL) ³⁹ .	Not available	Not available
Centre de pédagogie universitaire	Université de Montréal	To promote teaching to ensure a rich, diverse, and meaningful learning experience in all courses and programs ⁴⁰ .	Not available	Not available
Centre for Teaching and Learning	University of Alberta	To support instructors and programs to develop engaging and meaningful learning experiences for students by inspiring, empowering, modelling, and connecting excellent teaching at the University of Alberta ⁴¹ .	CTL promotes excellent university teaching that leads to engaging and meaningful learning experiences for students ⁷ .	Not available
Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology	University of British Columbia	To advance scholarly and innovative approaches to	Not available	Collaboration, Flexibility, Innovation, Integrity, Respect ⁸

Centre	Institution	Mission	Vision	Values
		teaching, learning, curriculum and educational technology practices within and across UBC's diverse disciplinary and cultural contexts ⁴² .		
Centre for Teaching and Learning	University of British Columbia - Okanagan Campus	To promote, inspire, and support excellence in teaching and learning practices, scholarship, technologies, and leadership ⁴³ .	We are the epicenter connecting the UBC Okanagan community dedicated to inspiring and inclusive teaching, learning innovation, professional development, and excellence in student learning outcomes and experience ⁴³ .	Collaboration, Caring, Innovation, Integrity, Respect, Outcome-Driven ⁴³
Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning	University of Calgary	To create opportunities to link networks of educational leaders, faculty, staff and students, and to encourage the flow of knowledge between these groups ⁴⁴ .	Inspiring the University of Calgary to be a globally recognized leader in postsecondary teaching and learning ⁴⁵ .	Care, Connection, Courage ⁴⁶
Open Learning and Educational Support	University of Guelph	To create innovative and relevant educational opportunities that meet the learning needs of a local and international audience ⁴⁷ .	Inspiring and empowering excellence in teaching and learning ⁴⁸ .	Not available
Teaching Centre	University of	To cultivate a	Not available	Not available

Centre	Institution	Mission	Vision	Values
	Lethbridge	culture of teaching excellence, providing robust professional development opportunities, supporting innovative teaching practices, and advancing the scholarship of teaching and learning ⁴⁹ .		
Centre for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning	University of Manitoba	To provide leadership, expertise and support for the teaching and learning mission of the University of Manitoba and to advance and advocate for the practice and scholarship of teaching in higher education ⁵⁰ .	Every teaching experience at the University of Manitoba is optimized for learning ⁵¹ .	Not available
Centre for Enhanced Teaching & Learning	University of New Brunswick	To promote effective and engaging teaching and learning through instructional excellence and the integration of classroom technology and media ⁵² .	Not available	Not available
Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology	University of Northern British Columbia	To support the teaching and learning community at UNBC ⁵³ .	Leading a Sustainable Future ⁵⁴ .	Not available
Teaching and Learning Support Service (TLSS)	University of Ottawa	Not available	Not available	Not available

Centre	Institution	Mission	Vision	Values
Teaching and Learning Centre	University of Prince Edward Island	To ensure we deliver on this value, UPEI is committed to building upon our strengths in teaching and learning... source services, programming, and support for the enhancement of teaching practices and increased student success ⁵⁶ .	Not available	Not available
Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching and Learning	University of Saskatchewan	To aid USask educators and leaders to set the standard in learning by offering intentionally designed, supportive, and excellent learning experiences ⁵⁷ .	To aid USask educators and leaders to set the standard in learning by offering intentionally designed, supportive, and excellent learning experiences ⁵⁷ .	Not available
Distance Education Unit	University of Saskatchewan	Not available	Not available	Not available
Teaching & Learning Centre	University of the Fraser Valley	To support the goals of UFV by providing leadership, support and resources for the continuous advancement of evidence-based teaching and learning practices and scholarship ⁵⁸ .	To empower educators with skills, agency and humility to develop teaching and learning experiences that meet the needs of all students through reflective and innovative approaches ⁶ .	Not available
Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation	University of Toronto	Not available	Not available	Not available
Learning and Teaching Support and Innovation	University of Victoria	To prioritize students' learning journeys and	Not available	Not available

Centre	Institution	Mission	Vision	Values
		growth by fostering a culture of exceptional teaching and innovation that promotes academic success and personal development ⁵⁹ .		
Centre for Teaching Excellence	University of Waterloo	To collaborate with individuals, academic departments, and academic support units to foster capacity and community around teaching and to promote an institutional culture that values effective teaching and meaningful learning ¹⁰ .	To inspire teaching excellence, innovation, and inquiry ⁶⁰ .	Supportive, Creative, Invested ¹⁰
Centre for Teaching and Learning	University of Western Ontario	To support the university's teaching and learning mission by providing orientation, training, mentorship, research and... source for students ³ .	Not available	Not available
Instructional Technology Resource Centre	University of Western Ontario	To transform education at Western University by creating exceptional online and multimedia instructional content ⁶¹ .	Not available	Not available
Centre for Teaching and Learning	University of Windsor	To create a culture of scholarly and effective teaching	To lead ongoing strategic and intentional	Not available

Centre	Institution	Mission	Vision	Values
		at the University of Windsor ⁶² .	development of the teaching and learning culture at the University of Windsor ⁶³ .	
Centre for Teaching, Learning, and Research	Vancouver Community College	To advance excellence in teaching and learning at VCC by providing support for both new and experienced faculty ⁶⁴ .	Not available	Not available
Centre for Innovation and Excellence in Learning	Vancouver Island University	To develop and enhance teaching excellence at VIU, supporting inclusive, innovative, and engaging student-centered learning ⁶⁵ .	Not available	Not available
Teaching and Learning	Wilfrid Laurier University	Not available	Not available	Not available
Teaching Commons	York University	Not available	Not available	Not available

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