ACCC

Recognition of Learning Affinity Group
(ROL AG)

Presentation at CAPLA Conference 2006

6th International PLAR/QR Forum

Fredericton

October 16, 2006

Presentation Panel

ROL Affinity Group Panel

ACCC ~ Meenakshi Gupta

ROL Coordinating Committee

- Maria Desjardins
- Deb Blower
- Kim Orynik
- Lucille Poirier
- Michelle Pugh

Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- ACCC and the growth of our Affinity groups to date
- Overview of the ROL Affinity Group
- What we do best ~ Sharing and Networking !
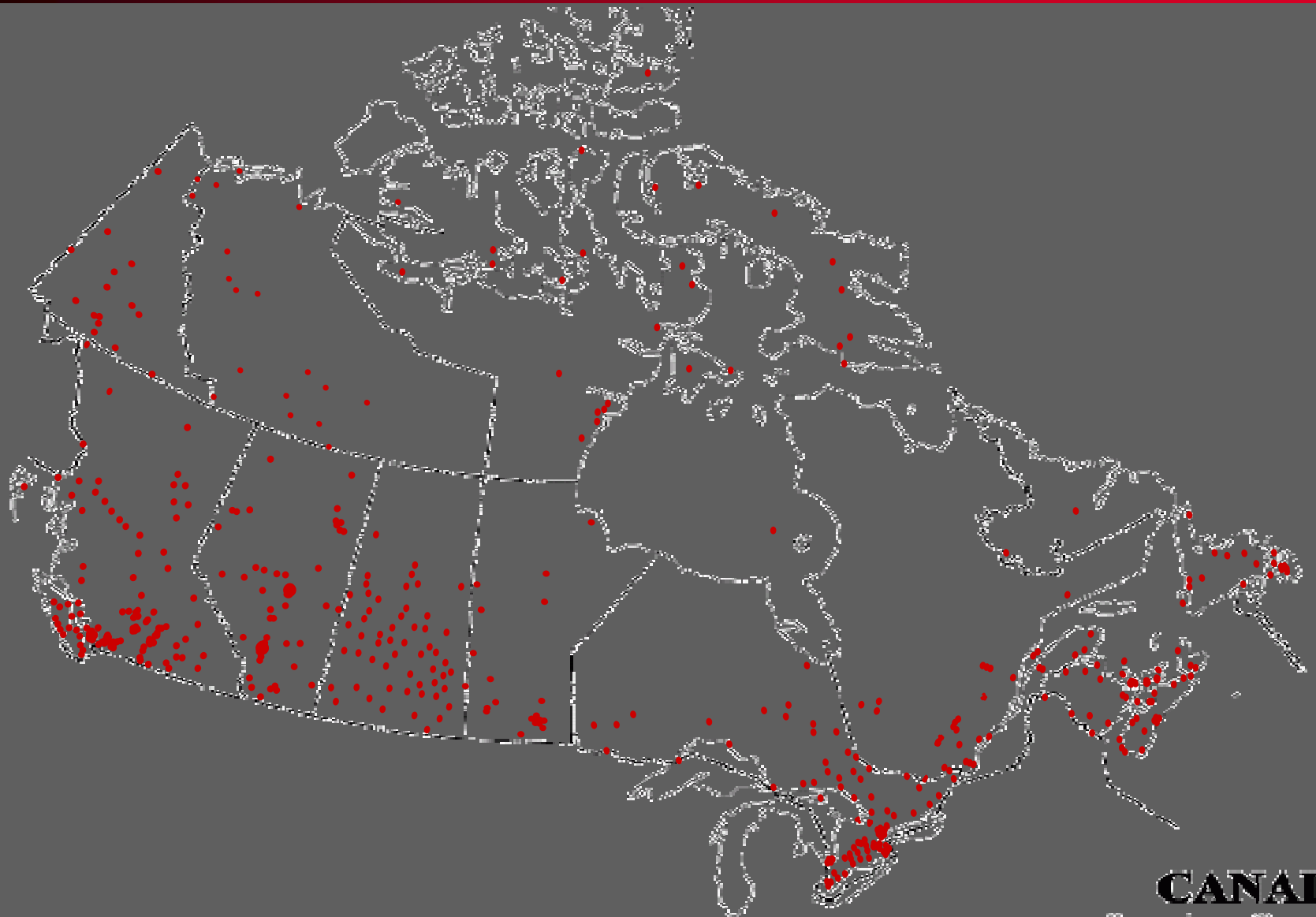- Dialogue on ROL Affinity Group Priorities
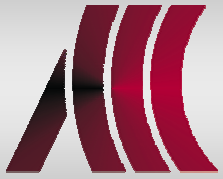- Wrap up and Moving Forward

ACCC Mandates

- Voluntary, not-for-profit national association of 150 public colleges, institutes of technology, cégeps and university colleges in Canada

- Mandates of being a Forum, an Advocate, a Stimulator of partnerships and a Marketer at the national and international levels

Campuses in 900+ communities

CANADA

ACCC Affinity Groups

- ## *What is an Affinity Group?*
  - ACCC Affinity Groups are groups of individual members of the college community who share a similar position, a similar sectoral focus or other common interest who come together to share ideas, innovative practices, curriculum;
  - Once organized they can also take on projects or joint activities with sector councils and other national groups and ministries to explore and promote common interests and challenges (ex.: the Canadian Aviation Maintenance Council's Prior Learning and Foreign Credential Assessment and Recognition Project)
  - Vertical AGs (Construction, Mining) AND Horizontal AGs (ROL, Immigration, Careers…)
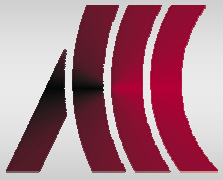
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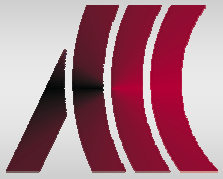
What is the ACCC ROL AG????

The Recognition of Learning Affinity Group is . . .

A national network through which college advocates and practitioners can collectively be more effective in advancing recognition of learning and PLAR services at the post secondary level in Canada.

Objectives of ACCC ROL-AG

1. Advocate for and mobilize PLAR practitioners in colleges and institutes to influence the development and delivery of resources, tools, training, projects and PLAR information across Canada.

2. Review national reports, research and information on PLAR and, where appropriate make recommendations for action.

3. Promote exchange and discussion on experiences, ideas, and exemplary practices in PLAR.

Objectives Continued:

4. Promote linkages and the sharing of resources among institutions offering PLAR/ROL services.

5. In partnership with the CAPLA and other national organizations, identify and share information on models for PLAR practitioner training that may be adapted and/or used in Canadian Colleges and Institutes.

6. Identify and support national research efforts on innovative PLAR projects and programs.

7. Advocate for and support the adoption of national standards of practice for PLAR practice and practitioners within the college system

8. Act as an advisory group to ACCC on issues of ROL-PLAR implementation and advocacy.
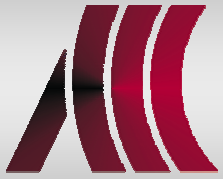
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What is the ROL AG CC?

ROL AG CC = ROL AG Coordinating Committee

- representatives from the 6 ACCC regions
- leadership role for the ROL AG within regions/nationally
- plan/implement ROL AG learning events
- hold regular conference call meetings
- provide clear vision of directions, scope, main issues on ROL/PLAR

What has the ROL AG done to date?

- one day learning events

  - November 2004 – Building on the National ROL/PLAR Experiences (Toronto)
  - May 2006 – ROL/PLAR Round up: Taking Stock of Best Practice (Calgary)

- distributed PLAR Resource List
- identified priority actions, resources and information for ROL AG
- investigated set-up of a discussion forum with the CAPLA Recognition for Learning website www.recognitionforlearning.ca
- provided expertise on PLAR/ROL to ACCC, sector councils, other organizations
- represented ACCC ROL AG on national projects & committees related to PLAR and FCR
- ongoing networking and sharing

What we do best . . . Networking and Sharing!

- one new ROL initiative at our college

- one way we have benefited from the ROL AG

  - Nova Scotia Community College

  - Cegep du Vieux – Montreal

  - Niagara College

  - Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science
    and Technology (SIAST)

  - Red River College

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What are the key priorities for the ROL AG?

- history

- 6 key priority areas identified at CAPLA's 5th PLAR/QR Forum in October 2003 (Winnipeg)

- top 3 priorities

  - Funding for PLAR/ROL

  - Training, Standards and Certification for PLAR/ROL Practitioners

  - Advocacy for PLAR/ROL

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Discussion groups on:

- Funding for PLAR/ROL
- Training, standards and certification for PLAR/ROL practitioners
- Advocacy for PLAR/ROL

Conclusion

- ROL-AG promulgates the universal message of PLAR i.e. no learning is lost learning;

- ROL-AG primarily an internet based resource but very active in moving and making things happen;

- ROL-AG strength lies in continual learning, partnering and collaborating.

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Wrap up and Moving Forward

- summary and questions
- how to join the ROL Affinity Group (www.accc.ca)
- ROL AG discussion forums

  - ACCC site – coming soon!

  - CAPLA's www.recognitionforlearning.ca

- join us at the ROL AG Networking Dinner (at your own expense)

  When: Tonight! (October 16/06)

  Where: Delta Hotel Dining Room

  Time: 7:30 p.m.

                 Reserve your spot!