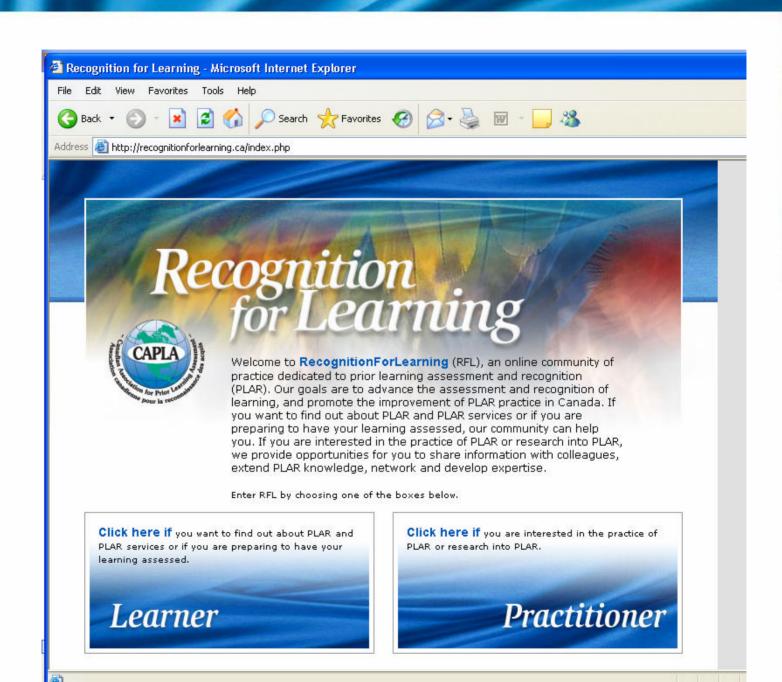


www.RecognitionForLearning.ca (RFL) CAPLA's online HUB for PLAR/RPL

Staking Out a PLAR Research Agenda in Canada
CAPLA Conference
October 2006



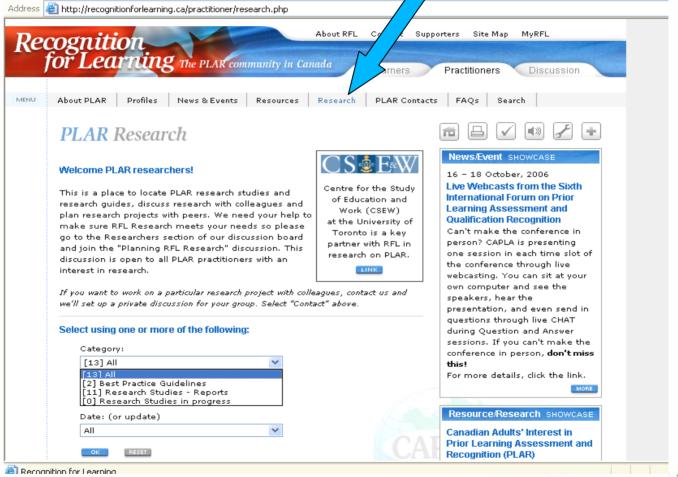


www.recognitionforlearning.ca

- A virtual national repository and knowledge exchange HUB for PLAR research and resources
- Supports various online communities of practice for PLAR/RPL/QR resources, news, research and discussion
- Dual Focus
 - For Learners to make use of PLAR
 - For use of PLAR in one's work (Practitioners)



RFL Research focus







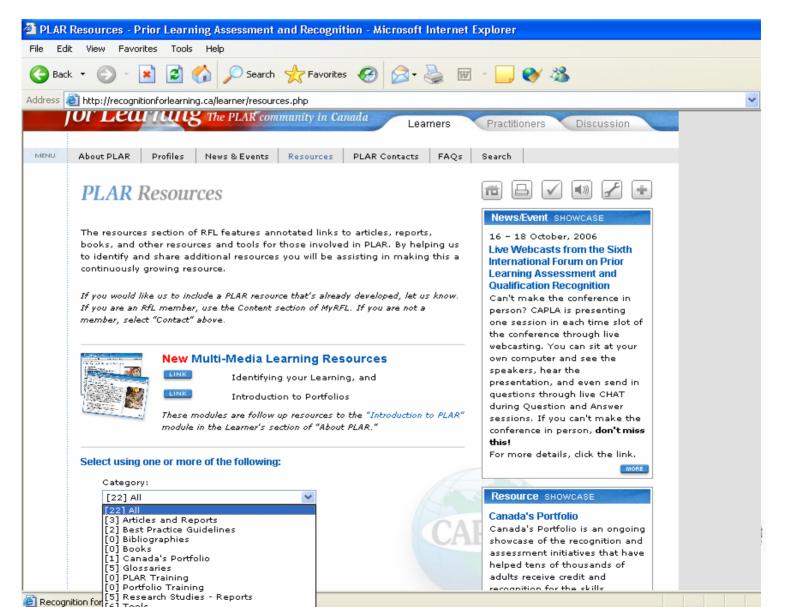
Formal Reports and Informal Feedback are both valuable 'research'

Learners:

- Gain information on statistical results (evidence based) of programs and projects re results/benefits and challenges of PLAR to help make decisions about participating in PLAR,
- Learn criteria for quality in PLAR systems and processes to help determine where to apply
- Need a central 'Hub' with links to assist with access

Quality research provides valid evidence and documented experience to assist with decision making

Learner Resources



Formal Reports and Informal Feedback are both valuable 'research'

Practitioners (anyone who uses PLAR in their work)

- Access to valid research and project results (evidence based) to help advocate for PLAR and develop quality systems and processes
- Identification of current research they could participate in (key results including own organization often helpful), and ability to identify research processes that would be valuable to implement
- Research analysis provides identification of trends, future directions, and useful pockets of 'passion' and interest re PLAR/QR

Quality research provides evidence based resources for own and cooperative use



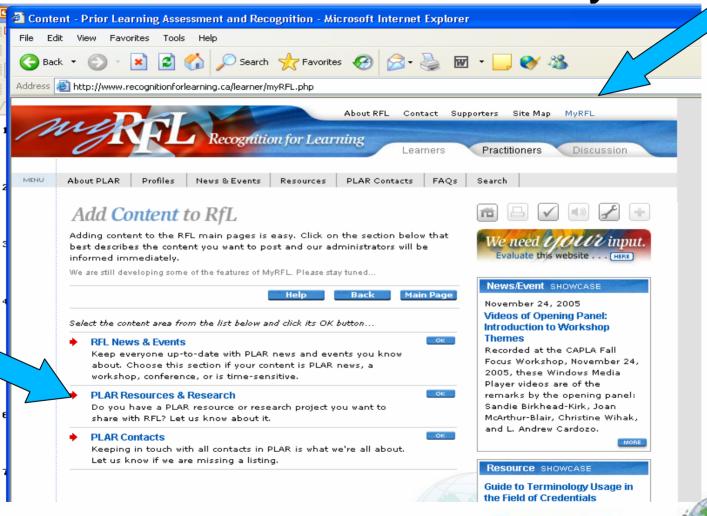
Some types of research

- Use of PLAR, & benefits to learners & institutions/organizations
- Interest in and demand for PLAR/QR
- Best practices, models, and guidelines
- Policy & procedures comparisons
- Barriers and supports

What else would be valuable?



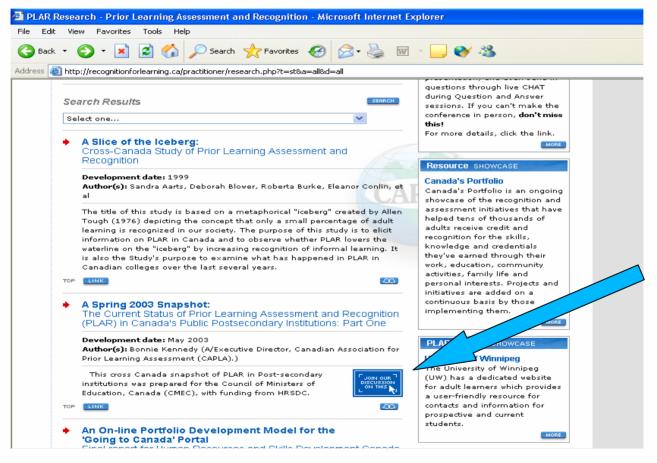
Add Research information yourself







Link a Research Resource to your Discussion Board Topic, or set up a Poll





We need cooperative Research efforts

Research results provide:

- Identification of regional and pan-Canadian trends
- Statistically valid information on needs, gaps and potential solutions to challenges
- Rationale for funding & continued work
- Information for awareness and communications pieces
- The 'front end' needs analysis, progress results, and continuous feedback for strategic direction for PLAR/RPL/QR



Remember the 3 'R's

- Research is valuable
- Rationale for PLAR/QR (through research)
- Repository & exchange Hub is effective and efficient for all

See us at the RFL Booth...



Next Steps – some possibilities

- Use today's results as first step
- Gain added feedback from PLAR community as to priorities and needs through online Discussion (RFL)
- Exchange ideas (RFL) private or public
- Set up smaller discussion groups
- Post possible projects to identify interest in partnering/participating
- Advocate for future PLAR/QR research!



Promote Research Partnerships/Participation

- Research partners for CAPLA to:
 - identify needed research
 - identify completed research findings
 - develop and implement research projects
- Dissemination of research findings (RFL)

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