**Open Educational Resources Workshop – Information Package**

**Feb 10th, 2016**

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**Basic concepts of Open Educational Resources (OERs)**

OER Defined: OER are teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and re-purposing by others. Open educational resources include full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge. (William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, n.d.)

The five Rs of OERs, as defined by Wiley (2014):

*Retain*– the right to make, own, and control copies of the content  
*Reuse* – the right to use the content in a wide range of ways (e.g., in a class, in a study group, on a website, in a video)  
*Revise* – the right to adapt, adjust, modify, or alter the content itself (e.g., translate the content into another language)  
*Remix* – the right to combine the original or revised content with other open content to create something new (e.g., incorporate the content into a mashup)  
*Redistribute* – the right to share copies of the original content, your revisions, or your remixes with others (e.g., give a copy of the content to a friend)

**Open Textbooks**

**BCcampus OpenEd -** [**https://open.bccampus.ca/**](https://open.bccampus.ca/)

Considered Canada’s first official open textbook project, it was official announced in October 2012. The initial project has the intention to cover 40 highest-enrolled subject areas in BC.

Though BCcampus OpenEd has British Columbia institutions as a start point, any institution in Canada or outside of Canada can adopt or modify a textbook produced by the project. Books can be downloaded for free. There is also an on demand printing option, for a small fee.

**Contact for more information:** [**opentext@bccampus.ca**](mailto:opentext@bccampus.ca)

**5 Steps to adopt an open textbook from BCCampus:**

1. Find the right textbook from <http://open.bccampus.ca/find-open-textbooks/>
2. Review and evaluate. Use the checklist attached to this information package.
3. Decide if you want to use as it is or modify it. Make sure the **Creative Commons** license allows for modifications. Check the CC chart attached to this information package.
4. Distribute to your students. You can offer a direct link to the textbook, download a copy of the textbook to Moodle, use online file sharing services (e.g. Dropbox).
5. Tell BC Campus OpenED that you adopted a textbook from the site.

**BCcampus OpenEd further resources**

Adapting and creating open textbooks: <http://opentextbc.ca/opentextbook/>

Accessibility toolkit for open textbooks: <http://opentextbc.ca/accessibilitytoolkit/>

**More open textbooks and open course materials projects**

**OER Commons** - With a single point of access from which you can search, browse, and evaluate resources in OER Commons’ growing collection of over 50,000 high-quality resources. <https://www.oercommons.org/courses/material_types/textbooks>

**OpenStax College** - provides free, peer-reviewed textbooks: <http://openstaxcollege.org>

**Open Textbook Library** - hosted by the University of Minnesota, and provides a catalogue of 150 open textbooks covering Business, Accounting, IT, Economics, Math, Humanities, Law, Math & Statistics, Natural, Physical and Social Sciences: <http://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks>

**College Open Textbooks** - many peer-reviewed textbooks and lists textbooks by subject: <http://collegeopentextbooks.org>

**SOL\*R** - Repository of Shareable Online Resources. <https://solr.bccampus.ca/wp>

**SkillsCommons** - free and open online library containing open learning materials and program support sources for job-driven workforce development. Created by the US Department of Labor’s Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT), the OERs are produced by community colleges across the nation and can be used by individuals, institutions, and industry. <https://www.skillscommons.org/browse?type=industrywheel>

**References**

Wiley, D. (2014, March 5). *The access compromise and the 5th R* [web log post]. Retrieved from <http://opencontent.org/blog/archives/3221>

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. (n.d.). *Open educational resources.* Retrieved from <http://www.hewlett.org/programs/education/open-educational-resources>