



The Canadian Learning Trust Declaration

The Need

Canada offers an amazing diversity of learning opportunities and Canadians intuitively know that learning is directly connected to a healthy and prosperous Canada. While Canadians understand the positive impact that lifelong learning has on the quality of life of individuals, workplaces and communities, the phrase 'lifelong learning' does not have a common spelling or connotation. The phrase 'lifelong learning' is often mistakenly confused with adult learning and learning for a job rather than for learning for life. Since education is a provincial responsibility, there are learners across Canada that are involved in lifelong learning but who do not communicate their successes or ask for advice from others. A growing learning industry in Canada encourages learning providers to compete with each other often to the detriment of the learner, creating learning silos which can confuse learners and increase the cost of learning as well as countering any natural movement of learners through learning opportunities. The lack of money to pay for the increasing costs of learning is often a significant barrier to learners. So while lifelong learning is a framework on which the challenges of Canadian life are met by individuals, communities and organizations, our dream of a Learning Canada is not yet a reality.

We believe that

- Lifelong learning is for all ages of learners - from the young through to the mature.
- Lifelong learning includes all those learning opportunities that happen between birth and death.
- All learning opportunities are worthy according to the value given to them by the learner.
- Financial barriers to learning continue to be a significant impediment to learning.
- It is an injustice that learning stops because learners cannot pay.
- The amount of lifelong learning will increase if Canadian learners, Canadian communities and Canadian workplaces are recognized for their efforts and shown other possibilities.
- A Canadian lifelong learning framework that recognizes, encourages, awards and financially supports learners, communities and workplaces is vital for a Learning Canada.
- More lifelong learning will take place if we all keep on learning.
- The Canadian Learning Trust can build a Learning Canada-one learner at a time.

A Learning Canada would be recognized by these outcomes:

- Canadian children are equipped to learn all through their lives.
- All Canadians learn to live well as they are learning to make a living • Every Canadian keeps on learning - barrier free.
- All Canadians are literate.
- Canadian communities solve their problems through learning.
- Canadian workplaces purposefully invest in the learning of their workers.



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We Value

The power of **inclusivity and diversity** of learning opportunities, learning styles and learning methods.

A **problem-solving approach** through purposeful learning.

The **celebration** of learning done well by learners, communities and workplaces.

The **generosity** of people who help learners to keep on learning.

Our Vision

We have a dream of a prosperous Canada enriched with a love of learning – a Learning Canada.

Our Mission

The Canadian Learning Trust encourages and promotes lifelong learning for all ages, life stages and geographic location of Canadians

The pillars of the Canadian Learning Trust are:

- The Gift of Learning
- Excellence in Learning Recognition
- **The GoldEye** - A Learning Planner and Tracker
- Citizenship Learning