



September 28–29, 2026

Ottawa



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du Canada

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ePIC Canada 2026 is funded by the Government of Canada's Future Skills Program.

Program ePIC Canada 2026

DAY 1 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28



Understanding why we need to recognize differently

Morning's key question: Why are our current recognition systems no longer enough?

Master of Ceremonies — **Yves-Gérard Méhou-Loko**

7:30 AM

Breakfast

8:30 AM

Opening of ePIC Canada 2026

Thanks to sponsors and land acknowledgement by **Yves-Gérard Méhou-Loko**
Remarks by **Diana Apostolides**, Director, Policy and Strategy (Future Skills Centre)

9:00 AM

Opening Keynote

"Recognizing": Why We Need to Change How We Recognize Learning

Presented by **Serge Ravet**, Co-founder of Reconnaître.

Recognition Frameworks: Standards, Proportionality, and Openness

Presented by **André Gariépy**, Quebec's Commissioner for Admission to Professions

10:30 AM

Break

10:45 AM

Presentation — Francobadges

What infrastructures will make it possible to connect these different forms of recognition?

By **Daniel Baril**, Adult education consultant and former president
of the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL)

11:30 AM

Remarks — The Honourable Edith Dumont

30th Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

11:40 AM

Panel Discussion — Recognition of Skills

**How can different stakeholders join forces to make the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)
a genuine lever for life pathways? What role can businesses and newcomers play in this dynamic?**

Speakers: **Mark Schaan**, Associate Deputy Minister (ISED), **Sylvie Painchaud**, Director General,
Ministerial Conference on the Canadian Francophonie, and **Carol McQueen**, Director General,
Settlement Program (IRCC)

12:40 PM

Lunch

DAY 1 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 (CONTINUED)

1:40 PM

Fireside Chat — Literary Conversation

What narratives are inspiring the transformation of our learning systems today?

With **Martine Rioux**, author of *TISSER: Angles neufs sur l'éducation*
and **Pierre Côté**, author of *Souriez, vous êtes au travail*

In collaboration with the Centre de la francophonie des Amériques

Flavie Hade will open the session

2:40 PM

À la Carte Workshops

01

All Learning Counts, Even Without Official Paperwork

Monamee Ishika — World Education Services (WES)

02

Linguistic Insecurity, Educational Engagement, and Recognition of Prior Learning

Virginie Thériault — UQAM

3:10 PM

À la Carte Workshops

01

From Badges to Recognition Ecosystems

Jako Olivier — Commonwealth of Learning

02

Skills for Thriving and Belonging: Alternative Learning to Build Confidence

Lynn Léger and **Geoffroy Krajewski** — CODAC NB

3:40 PM

Break

4:00 PM

Panel Discussion — Economic Stakeholders: Making Recognition a Lever for Employability

How can the recognition of prior learning and skills foster employability and create value for regions, businesses, and individuals? How does it serve as a lever for prosperity and inclusion in society?

Speakers: **Yan Plante** (RDEE Canada), **Mariette Mulaire** (WTCA),
Kimberly Jean (OIFC), **Dominic Mailloux** (BWX Technologies)

5:00 PM

End-of-Day Keynote

What might a Canada that truly recognizes all learning look like?

Speakers: **Frédéric Thibault-Chabot** — Vice-President, Academic (La Cité)
and **Serge Miville** — President and Vice-Chancellor, Université de Sudbury

6:00 PM

Reception

8:00 PM

Closing Remarks



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Centre des Compétences futures

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DAY 2 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29



How can we concretely
build this learning society?

7:30 AM

Breakfast

8:30 AM

Opening of the Day

9:00 AM

Panel Discussion — The Skills of the Future

Discussion with skills development stakeholders, OECD, UNESCO, and the Future Skills Centre

Speakers: **Anne Le Huu Pineault** (IVADO), **Lise Bourgeois** (former President and CEO of La Cité and Director of Education at CECCE), **Roland Tusz** (OECD) and **Steve Richter** (FSC)

9:45 AM

Presentation — How Is Artificial Intelligence
Transforming Employment, and What
Are the Effects of AI on Workers?

By **Éliane Racine**, Researcher at CRIMT (Centre for Interuniversity Research on Globalization and Work)

10:15 AM

Break

10:45 AM

Presentation — Identifying and Making
Skills Visible in All Contexts of Life

By **Margo Griffith**, Senior Skills Consultant at Edalex and SkillsAware
and **Don Presant**, President, Learning Agents

DAY 2 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 (CONTINUED)

11:30 AM

Panel Discussion — Learning Spaces

How does a region become a learning community?
What winning conditions need to come together?

Discussion with representatives from the Quartier Latin in Montréal, the First Nations School Board, the City of Edmonton & UQAM
Speakers: **Priscilla Ananian** (UQAM), **Hermel Bégin** (CSPNEA), **Laura Devaney** (Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord), **Denis Desgagné** (RESDAC) and **Barbara Pentimalli** (UQAM)

12:30 PM

Lunch

1:30 PM

À la Carte Workshops

01

COFA Digital Badges Project for Practitioners and Learners
Donald Lurette — COFA (Coalition Ontarienne de Formation des Adultes)

02

Deciding before equipping: guiding digital recognition choices
Pasto Wann — KPLW Strategic Innovations Inc.

03

Making recognition inclusive AND portable
Don Presant — Learning Agents

2:20 PM

À la Carte Workshops

01

What a Trusted Microcredential Commons Actually Requires
Başak Büyükçelen and **Amanda Coolidge** — Pressbooks

02

Transformative Recognition: Empowering Learners with Learning Disabilities
Lydienne Guidoin — COFA

03

A Badge... What's Next? Rethinking the Use of Digital Badges
Sylvie Pelletier — ICÉA

2:45 PM

À la Carte Workshops

01

Recognition at Scale: Implementing a Pan-Canadian RPL-Based Professional Certification
Dan McFaull — North Pacific Metrics Inc.

02

Innovations in Recognition Practices and SEM Priorities
Andy Brown — CAPLA

3:30 PM

Break

4:00 PM

Presentation — We Hear You! We See You!

By **Denise Stanley**, Director and Founder of Clock your skills

4:30 PM

Closing Keynote

Distinguished witnesses and signing of the Ottawa Declaration on the Open Recognition of Skills
With **Denise Amyot**, **Caroline Neas**, **Émilie Tremblay** and **Liane Roy**

5:15 PM

Closing Statement

By **Geoffroy Krajewski** (President of RESDAC) and **Yves-Gérard Méhou-Loko**

5:30 PM

Casual Dinner, Bâton Rouge restaurant: 360 Albert Street (a few steps from the Delta Hotel)