

Connecting to Create:

Platforms to Create Ontario's Virtual Learning Solutions

The Virtual Learning Strategy (VLS) includes investing in postsecondary stakeholder partnerships and platforms to promote virtual learning solutions and experimentation.

The Virtual Learning Strategy is built on three key pillars:



Being the future



Being a lifelong learner



Being a global leader

Platforms bring together stakeholders in the Ontario postsecondary sector to:

- ✓ Build partnerships to create virtual learning solutions
- ✓ Find, evaluate, and experiment with educational technology (EdTech), tools, and resources
- ✓ Support innovation in virtual teaching and learning



Platform Impacts

Platforms support the Ontario postsecondary sector in a variety of ways:



Transmission:

Platforms provide **access** to systems and shared services



Transaction:

Platforms create **opportunity** for engagement, collaboration, and partnerships



Transformation:

Platforms co-create **visions** to drive sector evolution, growth, and impact

This report shares the ongoing work of three VLS platforms and initiatives that are aligned to the VLS pillars of *Being the future* and *Being a global leader*

Digital Capacity

Central Virtual Learning Platform (CVLP)



Connect eCampusOntario member institutions with preferred skilled professionals to develop high-quality virtual learning content.

Partnerships

Digital Delivery

VLS Demonstration Projects



Develop Ontario-made EdTech through institution-industry collaborations.

EdTech Sandbox



Experiment with emerging EdTech in a safe testbed to support technology-enabled teaching and learning.

Experimentation

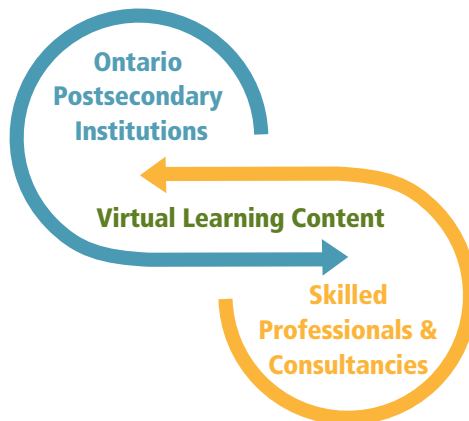
Central Virtual Learning Platform (CVLP)



CVLP enhances Ontario's creative capacity for virtual learning. This new matchmaking platform connects Ontario postsecondary institutions with skilled professionals (e.g., instructional designers, multimedia developers) and consultancies to create high-quality virtual content.

6 Ontario postsecondary institutions

50% colleges
50% universities



13 Ontario-based skilled professionals and consultancies

38% freelancers
31% small consultancy (less than 10 employees)
23% medium consultancy (10 to 100 employees)
7% large consultancy (more than 100 employees)



17 CVLP projects (to date)

2

pathways for engaging with CVLP

VLS Funding

matching + funding



Fast Track

matching



Services matched (to date)

Multimedia development and graphic design	39%
Instructional design	22%
Copy editing	19%
Web accessibility	11%
Course/Web development	4%
Digital librarian	4%
Translation	2%

2021-22 Ongoing and upcoming CVLP activities



Engaging and connecting with Ontario virtual learning stakeholders. To learn more about CVLP and engage, please visit our website:

vls.ecampusontario.ca/cvlp/



Building a CVLP network of vetted skilled professionals and consultancies specialized in virtual learning.



Increasing access to meaningful work for new graduates, freelancers, and small and growing companies (e.g., startups).



Developing a digital platform to streamline matchmaking and increase integration across programs and platforms at eCampusOntario.

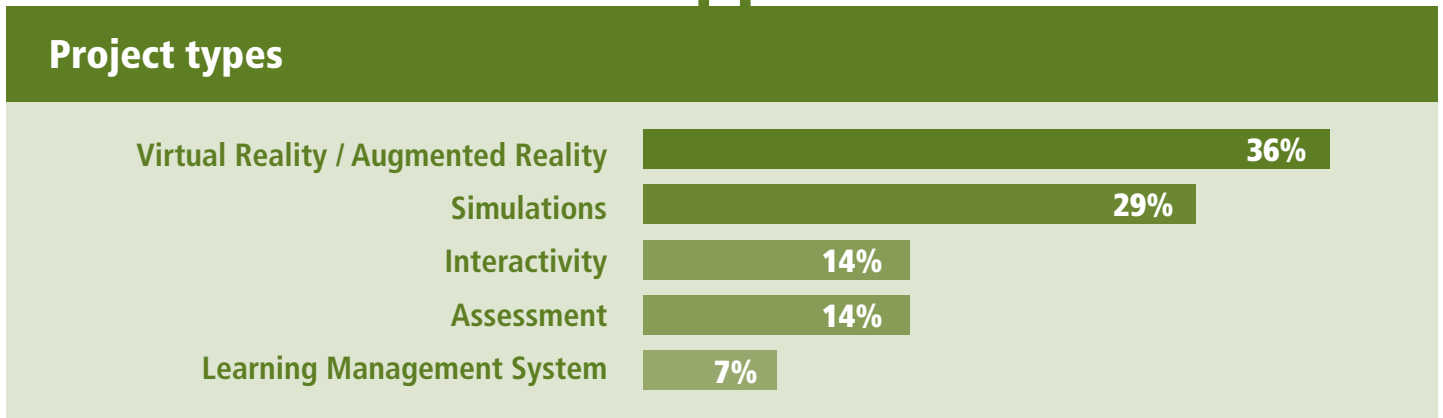
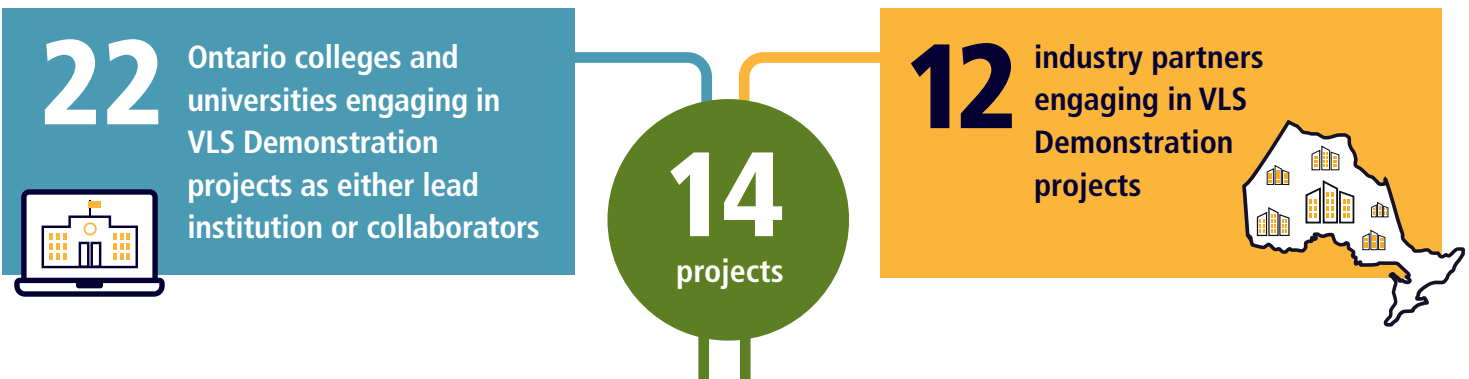
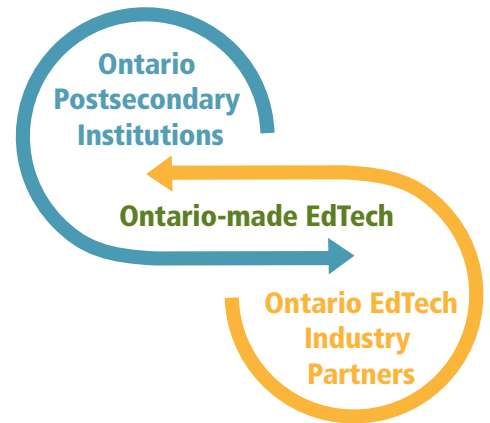


Facilitating the sharing of virtual learning content through the eCampusOntario Open Library.

VLS Demonstration Projects



Digital Delivery - Demonstration Projects support partnerships between Ontario postsecondary institutions and EdTech companies. These partnerships are testing technologies, promoting Ontario as a global leader in virtual learning, and providing Ontario EdTech companies access to the global marketplace.



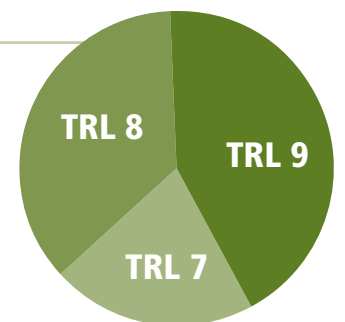
VLS investing over **\$1 million** & Industry matching investment over **\$1 million**

VLS supported technology projects in the final stages of development as defined by the [Technology Readiness Levels \(TRL\)](#).

21%
TRL 7: Prototype ready for demonstration in an appropriate operational environment

36%
TRL 8: Actual technology completed and qualified through tests and demonstrations

43%
TRL 9: Actual technology proven through successful deployment in an operational setting

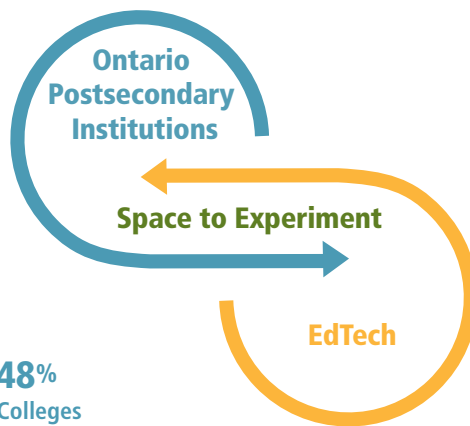
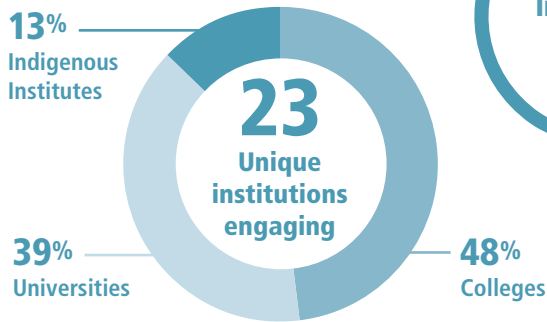


EdTech Sandbox



The VLS Investment in Digital Delivery is enabling Ontario postsecondary institutions to test emerging EdTech for their courses and programs. This is being realized through enhancing the impact and reach of the [EdTech Sandbox](#). The VLS is supporting two components of the EdTech Sandbox. The first component is a grant administered directly to institutions to experiment with eXtended Reality (XR). The second component provides institutions with EdTech licenses to explore and experiment with tools that can help them improve teaching and learning. Participating in these digital delivery initiatives supports institutions in making informed decisions about EdTech in the long term.

Types of postsecondary institutions engaging in digital delivery experimentation



Component 1



\$1 million allocated to **6 institutions**

to experiment with XR to enhance high-quality teaching and learning

Component 2

Providing EdTech licenses for experimentation

To date EdTech licenses allocated 16 institutions participated	EdTech	2021-22 EdTech licenses to be allocated 19 institutions participating
2,255	Social annotation hypothes.is	8,683
2,915	Virtual laboratory tool pivot interactives	8,900
	Online peer evaluation, assessment & review tool peerScholar.	19,118
	Online multi-purpose collaboration tool miro	8,266
	Audience response system software Kahoot!	2,632*

*Each license can be used for up to 20,000 users.



Some of the data presented in this infographic has been rounded and represent approximations. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact vls@ecampusontario.ca.

This report is the second in a series of five Virtual Learning Strategy (VLS) **Focus Reports** that tell data-driven stories about the VLS investment. VLS Focus Reports are accompanied by a series of five **Foresight Reports**. The Foresight Reports expand on the VLS pillar of Being the Future by exploring maturing trends in the Ontario postsecondary sector and situating the VLS in the futures of virtual learning.

2021-22 VLS Reports Outline

● Focus Report ● Foresight Report



Launching
the VLS



Connecting
to Create

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