

Open Learning Authority

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The Open Learning Agency is the newest member of British Columbia's education system. The Agency has been granted a broad and enabling mandate, permitting it to provide system-wide leadership in open learning.

Working in collaboration and co-operation with universities, colleges, institutes, school districts and other agencies concerned with education, the Agency's five major purposes are:

- to co-ordinate the development of open learning education;
- to provide educational programs and services using open learning methods;
- to operate one or more educational broadcasting undertakings;
- to provide an educational credit bank; and
- to carry out research related to open learning education.

The Open Learning Agency's responsibilities also include the continuing functions of the former Open Learning Institute and the Knowledge Network.

The OLA, through its three program components—Knowledge Network, Open College and Open University—and in collaboration with the other partners in open learning in British Columbia, will ensure that a comprehensive range of educational and training programs is available in all regions of the province.

The Knowledge Network offers general interest programs including self-directed studies, schools programming and quality childrens and family programs.

The Open College offers career, technical and vocational courses and programs. It also offers adult basic education programs.

The Open University offers courses which lead to the Bachelor of Arts degree, the Bachelor of Arts in Science, and the Bachelor of Administrative Studies.

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