



OPEN, GET READY!

PUBLIC AND ACADEMIC LIBRARIES' SUPPORT
FOR OPEN EDUCATION IN CANADA



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What we'll cover in this session

1. OER and the Open Education Movement
2. OER Policy in Western Canada
3. OER and the Public Library
4. Final Thoughts



1.

OER and the Open Education Movement

[CCO Image](#)



Definitions of OER

**“Open Educational Resources” was
coined at a 2002 UNESCO Conference**

“The open provision of educational resources, enabled by information and communications technologies, for consultation, use and adaption by a community of users for non-commercial purposes.”

Definitions of OER

OECD in [Giving Knowledge for Free](#)
(2007)

“digitised materials offered freely and openly for educators, students and self-learners to use and reuse for teaching, learning and research.”

Definitions of OER

OECD in [Giving Knowledge for Free](#) (2007)

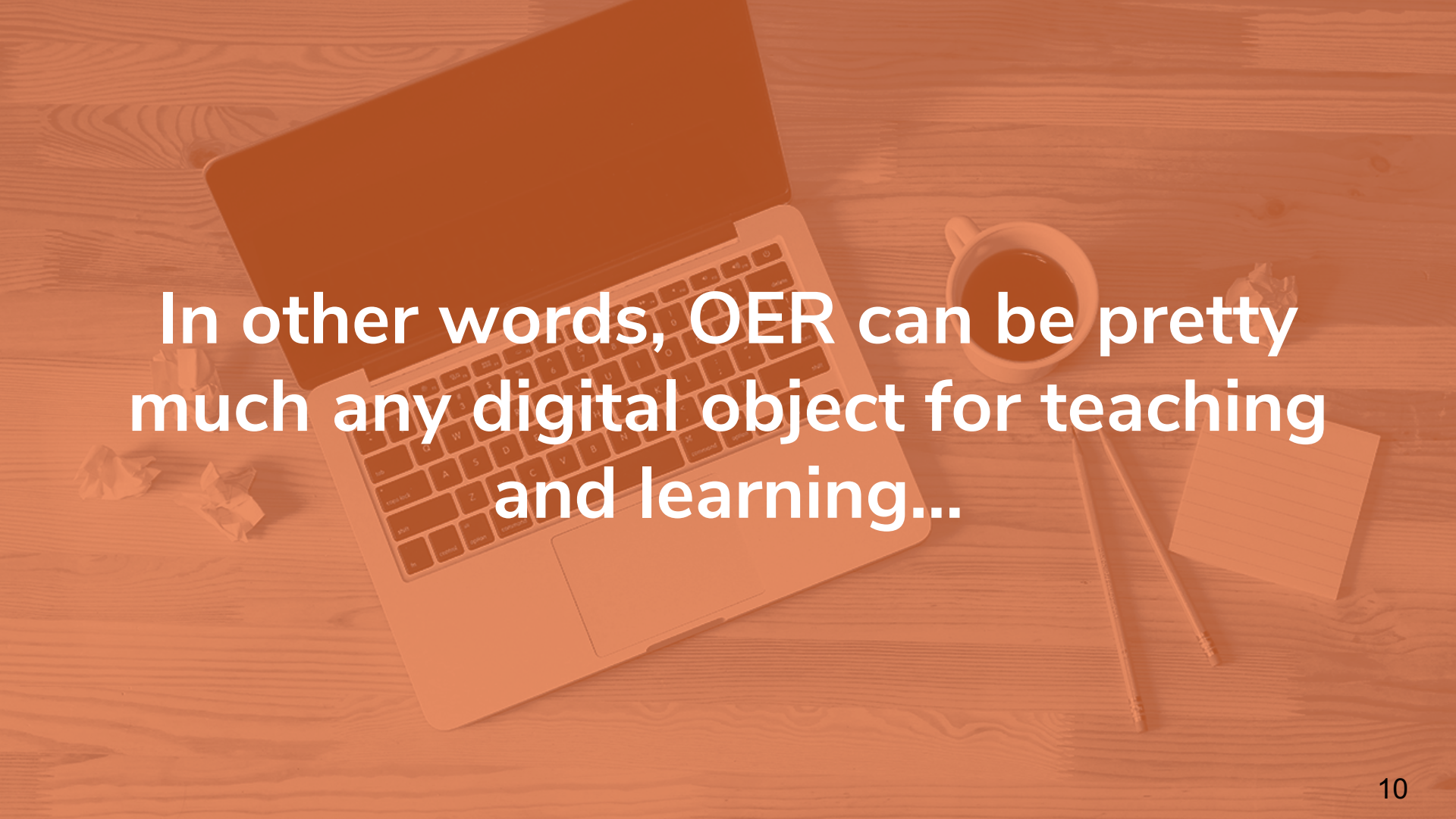
Discusses several concepts around “openness”
(p. 32-36)

- Covers technical, legal, social, and price barriers
- The right to modify and repurpose

Taken from McNally, M., & Christiansen, E. (2016, December 7). [Choices and consequences in transitioning from closed to open resources and courses](#). Presented at the Open Education in Action Conference, Maskwacis Cultural College, Maskwacis, AB.

The background of the slide is a photograph of a wooden desk. On the desk, there is a silver laptop with a dark screen, a white ceramic cup filled with dark coffee, two wooden pencils, a small rectangular notepad with horizontal lines, and several pieces of crumpled white paper. The entire scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent orange filter. Centered over this background is a list of educational resources in white text.

Lesson plans
Games
Textbooks
Stock photography
Video files
3D printing models
Multimedia
Quizzes and assessments
Guides and manuals

A top-down view of a wooden desk. In the center-left is an open laptop with a silver keyboard. To its right is a white ceramic cup filled with dark coffee. Below the cup are two wooden pencils and a small, lined notepad. To the left of the laptop are several pieces of crumpled white paper. The entire scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent orange filter.

In other words, OER can be pretty
much any digital object for teaching
and learning...

The “5 Rs”

Retain

Reuse

Revise

Remix

Redistribute

Lumen Learning. (2015). What are open educational resources? Retrieved from <http://lumenlearning.com/about-oer/>

Benefits According to the Literature

Cost

- Materials such as textbooks, course packs, online assessment, etc

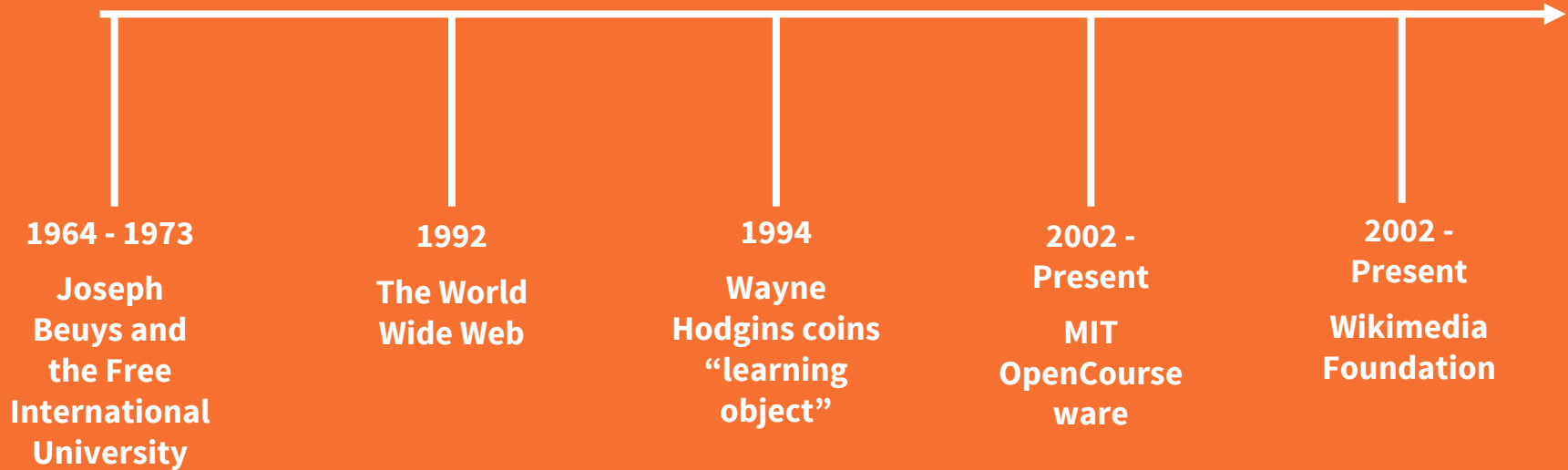
Access

- Broader public and life long learning
- Accessibility considerations
- Flexibility and digital formats

Benefits to Teaching and Learning

- Customization
- Collaboration
- Student-driven learning

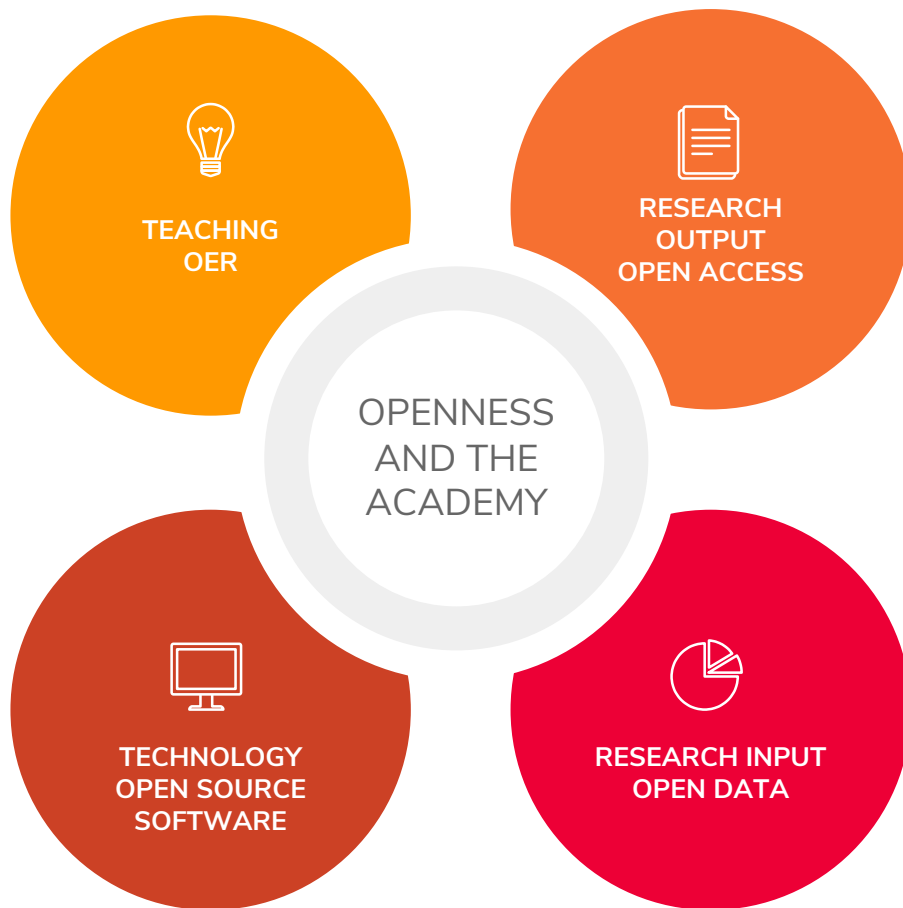
Open Education Timeline



Taken from Christiansen, E. (2017, November 24). [Everything is sharable: Why open educational resources are critical to lifelong and the sharing economy](#). Workshop given at the Code4Lib Alberta Conference, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB.

Broader Context

Open Education Movement



Modified from McNally, M. (2014). [*Broadening Access o Knowledge: Considerations in Developing and Using Open Educational Resources \(OER\).*](#)

Interested Parties and Stakeholders

Librarians

- Information literacy and student success

Instructors

- Engaging students

Students / learners

- Cost sensitive
- Want flexible-learning

Post-secondary administration / leadership

- Institutional sustainability and retention

Government / policy makers

- Cost of education to the public

Gaps in OER Literature

- Abundance of institutional case studies
- Emphasis on cost savings



2.

OER Policy in Western Canada



Education Governance in Canada



Research Questions

- What is being done in Western Canada to advance OER?
- What are the focuses of OER policy at both the government and research university levels?

Data being analyzed

Review and analysis of all relevant high-level policy documents from the four Western Provinces and policy from each provinces' respective research universities:

- Policy and strategic plans from ministries of Education
- Government funded OER initiatives / programs
- Government press releases
- Legislative debates (Hansard minutes)
- Campaigns and funding opportunities
- OER repositories (websites and missions)
- University strategic and academic plans
- Any other special reports from provinces or relevant institutions

150 Documents and Counting!

Link

Province	Date	Date Accessed	Initiative / Organization	Resource Type	Page / Policy Title	Notes	URL
BC		Accessed 2016-12-18	BC Campus	Funding initiative	Online Program Development Fund		https://bccampus.ca/online-program-development-fund-opdf/
BC		Accessed 2016-12-18	BC Campus	Repository	Open Textbook Project		https://bccampus.ca/open-textbook-project/
BC		Accessed 2016-12-18	BC Campus Annual Review	Report	BCCampus Annual Review 2015-2016	Report contains information on many projects	https://bccampus.ca/files/2016/10/BCcampus-Annual-Review-2015-16-PDF.pdf
BC		Accessed 2016-12-18	BC Campus Education Technology Users Group	Webpage	About Us		https://etug.ca/about/
BC		Accessed 2016-12-18	BC Campus Education Technology Users Group	Webpage	ETUG: visions, innovators, community of practice		https://etug.ca/2014/03/25/etug-visionaries-innovators-community-of-practice/
BC		Accessed 2016-12-18	BC Campus	Report	BCCampus Impact and Forecast Report 2013-2014		https://bccampus.ca/annual-report-2014/
BC	2013-09	Accessed 2016-12-18	BC Campus	Strategic Plan / Report	Annual Report 2012-2013 Strategic Plan 2013-2016	Combined document	https://bccampus.ca/files/2013/10/2013-ar-stratplan.pdf
BC		Accessed 2016-12-18	BC Campus SOL*R	Strategic Plan	Strategic Plan 2012-2015		https://bccampus.ca/files/2013/10/strategicplan_2012_15.pdf
BC		Accessed 2016-12-18	BC Campus SOL*R	Strategic Plan	Strategic Plan 2011-2014		https://bccampus.ca/files/2013/10/Strategic_Plan_2011-2014.pdf
BC		Accessed 2016-12-18	BC Campus SOL*R	Strategic Plan	Strategic Plan 2010-2012		https://www.bccampus.ca/files/2013/08/BCcampus_StrategicPlan2010.pdf
BC		Accessed 2016-12-24	BC Campus SOL*R	Repository	About Solr		https://solr.bccampus.ca/wp/about-bccampus-shareable-online-learning-resources/
BC		Accessed 2016-12-24	BC Campus SOL*R	Repository	Solr Background and History		https://solr.bccampus.ca/wp/about-bccampus-shareable-online-learning-resources/background-and-history/
BC		Accessed 2016-12-24	BC Campus SOL*R	Repository	Solr Goals		https://solr.bccampus.ca/wp/about-bccampus-shareable-online-learning-resources/solr-goal/
BC		Accessed 2016-12-24	BC Campus SOL*R	Repository	Value Proposition		https://solr.bccampus.ca/wp/about-bccampus-shareable-online-learning-resources/value-proposition/
BC		Accessed 2016-12-24	BC Campus SOL*R	Repository	Contribute a Resource	Includes potential user barriers	https://solr.bccampus.ca/wp/how-to/contribute-a-resource/
BC		Accessed 2016-12-24	BC Campus SOL*R	Repository	Other Related Tasks	Includes potential user barriers	https://solr.bccampus.ca/wp/how-to/contribute-a-resource/other-related-tasks/
BC		Accessed 2016-12-24	BC Campus SOL*R	Repository	Create Resources	Best practices and barriers	https://solr.bccampus.ca/wp/how-to/create-resources/
BC		Accessed 2016-12-24	BC Campus SOL*R	Repository	Best Practices	Best practices and barriers	https://solr.bccampus.ca/wp/best-practices/
BC	2012-06-08 LM	Accessed 2016-12-24	BC Campus SOL*R	Wiki	Interoperability and Reusability Wiki	Best practices	https://mediawiki.bccampus.ca/index.php/SOLR:Main_Page
BC	2016-01-28 LM	Accessed 2016-12-24	BC Campus SOL*R	Wiki	General Best Practices for Creating Learning Resources	Best practices	https://mediawiki.bccampus.ca/index.php/SOLR:General_Best_Practices_for_Creating_Learning_Resources
BC	2013-09-20	Accessed 2016-12-26	BC Campus	Blog post	Revisiting Campus 2020		https://bccampus.ca/2013/09/20/revisiting-campus-2020/
BC	2007-04	Accessed 2016-12-26	BC Government	Report	Campus 2020 Thinking Ahead	Original report not found. Web archive	http://web.archive.org/web/201110609000240/http://www.aved.gov.bc.ca/campus2020/campus2020-thinkingahead-report.pdf
BC	2014-04	Accessed 2016-12-26	BC Campus	Report	Student Services Surey Result	Discussion of OER	http://docs.openinfo.gov.bc.ca/d12200514a_response_package_aed-2013-00136.pdf
BC	2012-10-16	Accessed 2016-12-26	BC Government	Blog post	BC to lead Canada in offering students free, open textbooks		https://news.gov.bc.ca/stories/bc-to-lead-canada-in-offering-students-free-open-textbooks
BC	2015-05-29	Accessed 2016-12-26	BC Government	Press release	Open textbooks fill digital shelves		https://news.gov.bc.ca/stories/open-textbooks-fill-digital-shelves
BC	2014-04-15	Accessed 2016-12-26	BC Government	Press release	BC leading the discussion on open textbooks		https://news.gov.bc.ca/stories/bc-leading-the-discussion-on-open-textbooks
BC	2015-03-06	Accessed 2016-12-26	BC Government	Press release	Open Education offers students and educators new learning experiences		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2013-2017/2015AVED0021-000291.htm
BC	2016-03-06	Accessed 2016-12-26	BC Government	Press release	Open textbooks: a great idea catches on		https://news.gov.bc.ca/stories/open-textbooks-a-great-idea-catches-on
BC	2015-02	Accessed 2016-12-26	BC Ministry of Advanced Education	Report	2015/2016 - 2017/2018 Service Plan		http://www.bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2015/sp/pdf/ministry/aved.pdf

Some early findings

- Disproportionate focus on cost savings
- Little discussion about how OER can improve teaching and learning and flexible delivery (with some exceptions)
- Little focus on creating incentives for instructors to create more OER
- BC Government and institutions are leading

BC Open Textbook Project



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Let us know if you have [adopted an open textbook](#). Or, if you are looking for resources on how to adopt a textbook, we have some resources to help.

FACULTY

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a Textbook

Adapt

Take advantage of the open textbook [Creative Commons license](#) and customize an open textbook to fit your specific needs. See [Support for Adapting an Open Textbook](#) for a list of resources to help you modify an existing open textbook.

Source: <https://open.bccampus.ca>

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BC Campus Hosts Many Open Textbooks

Introduction to Psychology

Good news! This book has been updated and revised. An adaptation of this book can be found here: open.bccampus.ca

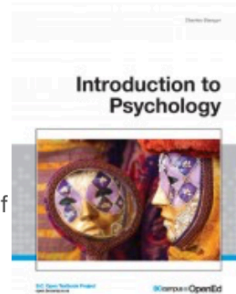
Description: This textbook includes learning objectives, key takeaways, exercises and critical thinking activities, and a marginal glossary of key terms. In short, I think that this book will provide a useful and productive synthesis between your goals and the goals of your students. I have tried to focus on the forest rather than the trees and to bring psychology to life—in ways that really matter—for the students. At the same time, the book maintains content and conceptual rigor, with a strong focus on the fundamental principles of empiricism and the scientific method. Zip file contains HTML version of the book.

Author: Charles Stangor

Original source: www.saylor.org/books, flatworldknowledge.lardbucket.org









Adoption (faculty): [Contact us if you are using this textbook in your course](#) 

Adaptations: [Support for adapting an open textbook](#) 



Another hand mirror reflection
(<http://www.flickr.com/photos/72213316@N00/6168294960/in/photostream/>) by Frank Kovalchek
(<http://www.flickr.com/photos/72213316@N00/6168294960/in/photostream/>)

BC Campus Hosts Many Open Textbooks

1.	WEBSITE 	Instructor/Student Resources: Handbook, Quizzes, Slides	(http en
2.	WEBSITE 	Instructor Resource: Testbank. Email helpdesk@bccampus.ca	
3.	WEBSITE 	Instructor Resource: Case Study - Climate Change	
4.	DOWNLOAD 	EDITABLE: .html files	
5.	WEBSITE 	Instructor Resource: Moodle course. Email helpdesk@bccampus.ca	
6.	DOWNLOAD 	Print (.pdf) (32 MB)	
7.	PRINT 	Buy a print copy	
8.	DOWNLOAD 	EDITABLE: Open Document Text file (.odt) (28 MB)	

Alberta OER Initiative



Source: <http://albertaoer.com>

Alberta OER Initiative

Funded projects across Alberta with a focus on reducing the cost of higher education to students

- Projected savings to students is over \$5 million (Alberta OER [ROI Cost Savings](#))

Resources for instructors

- Communications: [Starter Kit](#) and [Champions Toolkit](#)
- Webinars and videos

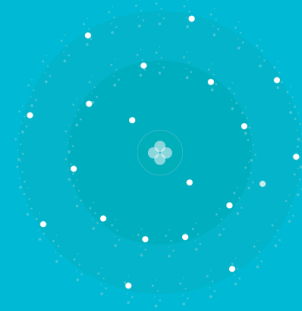
Notable projects funded

- [Open Physics](#) site, Johnathan Sharp UofA
- [Open Logic](#) Project, Richard Zach, UofC

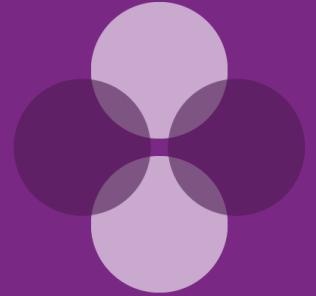
OPEN PHYSICS



User Guide (Start Here)



The Electronic Structure
of the Atom



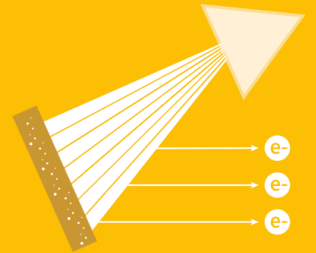
Nucleus



Radioactivity



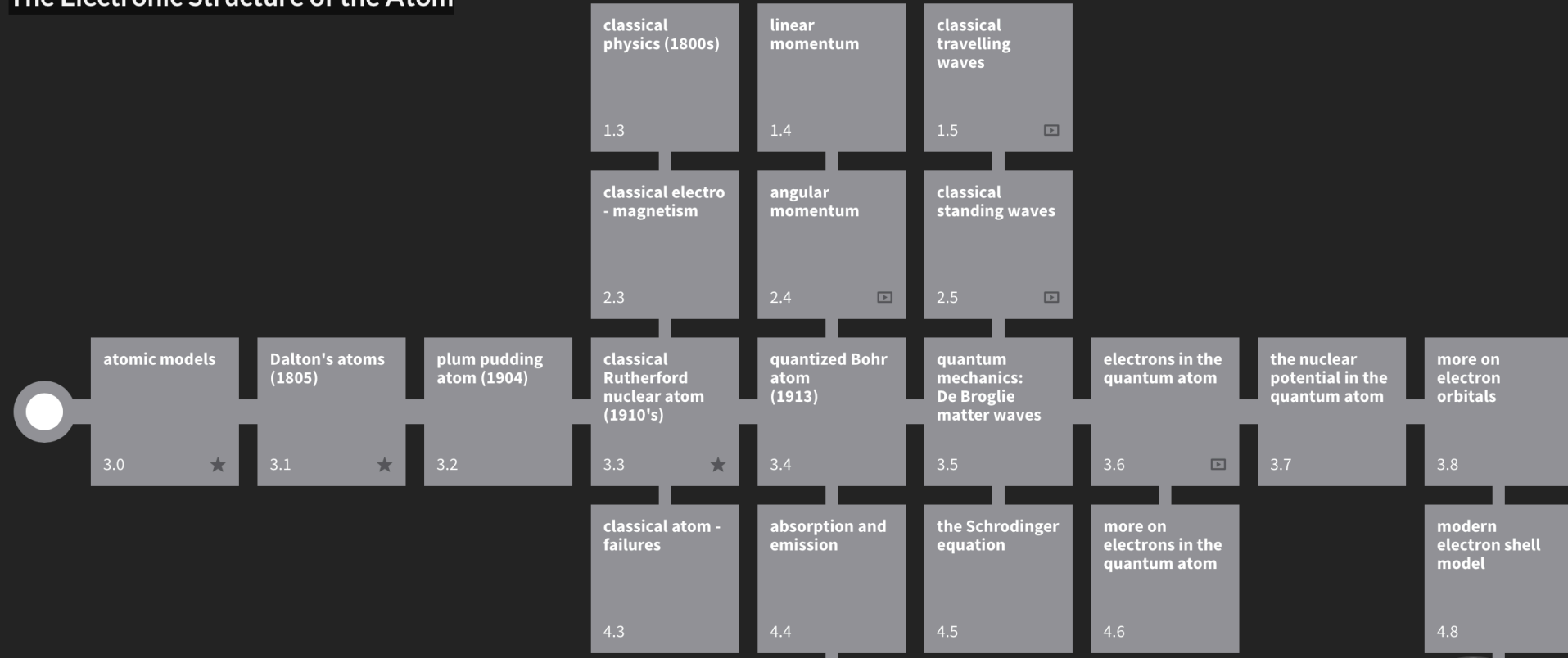
$E = mc^2$



Photoelectric Effect



The Electronic Structure of the Atom



Dalton's Atoms (1805)



The idea of atoms

John Dalton's atomic theory:

1. Pure elements consist of atoms
2. The atoms of a specific element are identical
3. Atoms cannot be sub-divided
4. Atoms of different elements differ in atomic weight
5. Atoms unite to form chemical compounds
6. Atoms cannot be created or destroyed by chemical reactions

In 1808 Dalton published *A New System of Chemical Philosophy*. He was also known for studying colour-blindness.

Limitations

Although Dalton's atomic theory helped build the foundation of our understanding in atoms, the majority of his points were later discovered to be wrong:

2. Isotopes are different versions of the same element. Although the same element must have the same number of protons, they can differ in number of neutrons. The same element can also differ in number of electrons, providing different charges.

Click to make Dalton Little 'Ball Atoms'



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Manitoba's post-secondary sector is committed to higher education—the creation, dissemination, and preservation of knowledge. As such, our purpose is to expand access and connect students to the opportunities that higher education offers.



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OER Commons	Learning objects + textbooks	https://open.bccampus.ca/find-open-textbooks/
MIT Open CourseWare	Fully open courses	https://ocw.mit.edu/index.htm
Merlot II	Learning objects	https://www.merlot.org/merlot/index.htm
BCCampus Open Textbooks	Textbooks	https://open.bccampus.ca/find-open-textbooks/
Open Stax	Textbooks	https://openstax.org/
Open Data Canada	Data	http://open.canada.ca/en/open-data
Internet Archive	Multimedia / web archive	https://archive.org/
Open Source Software Directory	Open source software	https://opensourcesoftwaredirectory.com/

3.

OER and the Public Library

[CCO Image](#)



Benefits According to the Literature

Cost

- Materials such as textbooks, course pack, online assessment, etc

Access

- Broader public and life long learning
- Accessibility considerations
- Flexibility and digital formats

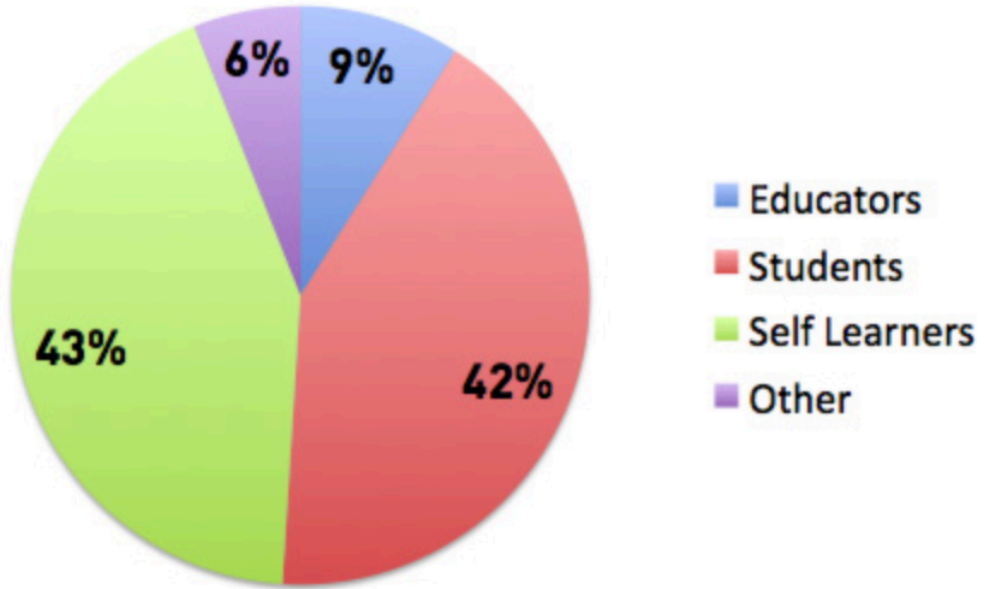
Benefits to Teaching and Learning

- Customization
- Collaboration
- Student-driven learning

MIT Open Courseware

Massachusetts Institute of Technology makes most of its course content available to the public

- Receives 2 million visits per month
- 2364 courses published



MIT OpenCourseWare. (2016, October). Retrieved from <https://ocw.mit.edu/about/site-statistics/>

A top-down view of a wooden desk with a laptop, a cup of coffee, pencils, and crumpled paper. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent orange filter. The text "Group Discussion" is centered in white.

Group Discussion

With a partner
try and
answer...

1. Are there patrons, or specific groups, that would benefit from OER in any way?
2. Can you think of an experience you had when you were trying to help a patron find some information where an OER might have been helpful

5 min!

With a partner
try and
answer...

1. Are there patrons, or specific groups, that would benefit from OER in any way?
2. Can you think of an experience you had when you were trying to help a patron find some information where an OER might have been helpful

Find another pair of participants and trade stories

5 min!

Participant feedback

Are there patrons, or specific groups, that would benefit from OER in any way?

- High school students
- Second language learners
- Internationally trained professionals
- People looking for a career or job change
- People looking to start their own business
- K-12 Teachers
- People with access barriers: in long-term care facilities, remote communities, seniors, etc
- Life-long learners
- Not-for-profit employees

Participant feedback

Can you think of an experience you had when you were trying to help a patron find some information where an OER might have been helpful

- Looking for coding and robotics ideas – lesson plans and tutorials – beyond what's provided by vendors
- Out of print items
- Accessing materials in a printable format
- Examples of in-depth reference questions. Ex. Effects of coal and black lung during period of years.
- Children in hospitals long-term and want to keep up with studies
- Homeschooling resources
- Materials accessible to *all* users – second language learners, different age groups, different cultural contexts, etc
- Oral history

4.

Final Thoughts



OER Challenges

- General awareness
- Flexibility and customization
- Quality assurance



Allen and Seaman, 2014

“The most significant barrier to wider adoption of OER remains a faculty perception of the time and effort required to find and evaluate it”

(Allen and Seaman, [2014](#), [Opening the Curriculum](#))

Instructor Workload Comparison

Closed course	Fully open course
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Content expert (has read foundational materials) •Course content (syllabi, notes, assignments, PowerPoint) •Design and deliver content for one audience •Competence using the library and its resources and services 	<p>All elements from closed courses, plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Course readings need to be open access •Design for variety of audiences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language • Cultural considerations •Knowledge of open licensing options <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permissive licensing (CC-BY or CCO) •Dissemination methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OER / institutional repositories •Pedagogical changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-assessment • Sophistication / reading level •Usability / accessibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple file formats • Editable files with instructions • Open source editing tools provided (or recommended)

Taken from McNally, M., & Christiansen, E. (2016, December 7). [*Choices and consequences in transitioning from closed to open resources and courses*](#). Presented at the Open Education in Action Conference, Maskwacis Cultural College, Maskwacis, AB.

Using OER in the Public Library

15% of Canadians don't have / use Internet
([ITU](#), 2014)

- Public libraries are digital hubs for many community users
- Linking to OER from library's search is critical



[CCO Image](#)

Using OER in the Public Library

Resources for Second Language Learners

- “[Listening, Speaking, and Pronunciation](#)” - MIT Open Courseware
- “[Writing for Success](#)” – Open Textbook Library
- “[Business English for Success](#)” – OER Commons



[CCO Image](#)

Using OER in the Public Library


OER and the Maker Movement

- 3D printing and 3D scanning build on open design templates and open source software
- Robotics lesson plans
- Teaching computer programming and STEM




TinkerCAD - Design software

- Cloud-based
- Users can create design export them for 3D printing

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3D Design Gallery

Hot NowNewest ThingsStaff Favorites




14 19

The best fidget spinner


2031326JM
16 minutes ago

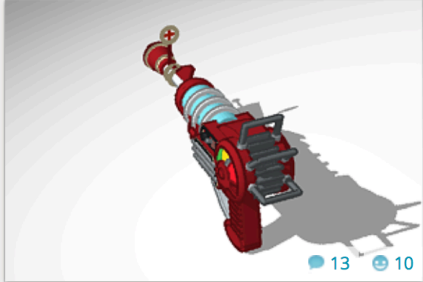
BETA



11 15


Hands

sdhondiyal 367
a day ago



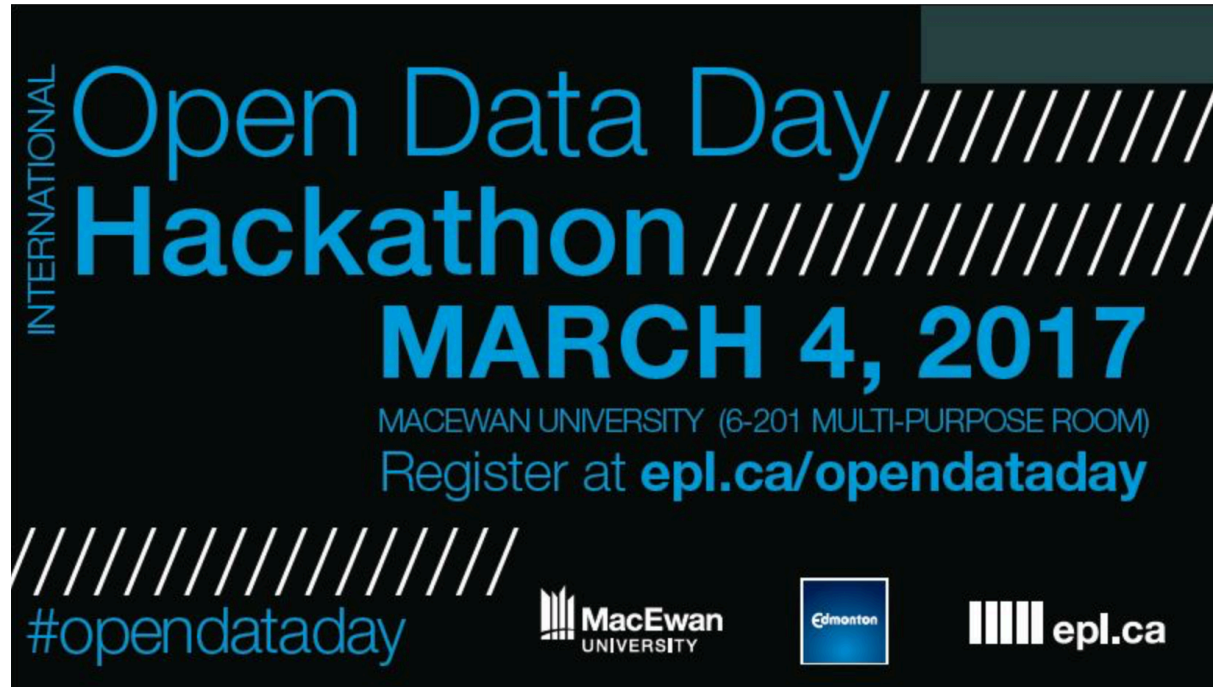
13 10

ray gun

Kamden LeBlanc
14 hours ago

Using OER in the Public Library

Partnering with local organizations to host open education events



[Screenshot source](#)

And if you still
don't believe
OER are
important...

We all start somewhere!



A top-down view of a wooden desk with a laptop, a cup of coffee, pencils, a notepad, and crumpled paper. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent orange filter. The text "THANK YOU!" is centered over the laptop keyboard.

THANK YOU!

Questions for you

1. Are there particular resources / guides not covered in this presentation that you would like to learn more about?
2. Where would you like to see a paper on OER and the role of the public library published?

Questions?

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Blog: tech-bytes.net



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