



Experiential Learning Annual Report

2025-2026





CANADORE
college
OTA/PTA

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC:

It is my pleasure to introduce the 2025-2026 Experiential Learning Annual Report, which highlights the remarkable achievements and continued growth of experiential learning across Canadore College.

Experiential learning is at the heart of our academic mission, ensuring that our students graduate with the practical, hands-on experience needed to succeed in an evolving employment landscape. Through exposure gained in applied learning contexts, we are equipping our students with the skills, confidence, and adaptability required to thrive.

Over the past year, our faculty, staff, and partners have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to innovation and student success. Together, they have expanded opportunities for meaningful engagement through experiential learning, creating environments where students can benefit from authentic exposure to real-life demands.

This report reflects the collective dedication of our academic teams and external partners who make experiential learning possible. Their work ensures that our programs remain relevant, responsive, and aligned with labour market needs, while also fostering critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving among our students. As we look ahead, we remain committed to expanding access to high-quality experiential learning for every student.

I invite you to explore this report and celebrate the accomplishments of our students, faculty, and partners. Together, we are shaping graduates who are ready to lead, contribute, and make a meaningful impact in their communities and beyond.

Sincerely,



Dr. Ahmed Obaide
Vice President, Academic

CANADORE COLLEGE IS AN INSTITUTION OF APPLIED LEARNING AND RESEARCH WITH A STRONG FOCUS ON EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

CANADORE'S STATEMENT OF PURPOSE, 2026

? WHAT IS EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Experiential Learning (EL) is 'learning by doing.'

Work-integrated learning (WIL) is a sub-category of EL that formally integrates a student's academic studies with quality experiences within a workplace or practice setting. WIL experiences include an engaged partnership of at least: an academic institution, a host organization, and a student.

TYPES OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING ACTIVITIES AT CANADORE COLLEGE:

- ◀ Work/Field Placement
- ◀ Clinical Placement
- ◀ Service Learning
- ◀ Formal Course Project
- ◀ Job Shadowing
- ◀ Workplace/Lab Simulation
- ◀ Performance/Artistic Production
- ◀ Capstone Project
- ◀ Land-Based Learning
- ◀ Applied/Industry Sponsored Research
- ◀ Incubator/Entrepreneurial Activity
- ◀ Bootcamp/Hackathon

“ I appreciate the emphasis on experiential learning in my program, especially through case studies and simulated projects that mirror real workplace challenges. These opportunities have made the learning more engaging and relevant

~ Project Management – Information Technology student

“ Skills labs were designed to make you think outside the box, as well as getting hands-on experience with tasks employers will want in the field
~ *Environmental Technology student*

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING AND WORK-INTEGRATED LEARNING BY THE NUMBERS

100%

Number of programs with planned curricular EL
(*Strategic Mandate Agreement Metric)

42%

Number of courses across all programs with planned curricular EL

60%

Percentage of students who will participate in WIL by graduation

1,020

Number of students who engaged in a placement

88%

Percentage of students who agreed or strongly agreed with the statement,
“OVERALL, the quality of my work-integrated learning experience is high.”
OCSES Survey 2025-2026

1,750

Number of unique placements

175

Number of industry partners supporting placements

290,300

Number of hours of combined placement engagement

48

Number of Field Trips

“ Having different experiences was crucial, as each childcare environment is unique. I was able to plan and facilitate activities for children, document their learning through pedagogical tools, and adapt my approach to meet diverse developmental needs. I learned how to form meaningful relationships not only with children, but with families and colleagues. I also learned how to be flexible, creative and reflective in a childcare setting
~ *Early Childhood Education student*

SHOWCASE

HANDS-ON AVIATION TRAINING WITH ENGAGED PARTNERS

Through partnerships with industry, Aviation students have the opportunity to experience hands-on learning through an optional, short-term placement to further enhance their training and career readiness.

The placement allows students to participate in the maintenance of aircraft in a real-world scenario for a full week. Students come to Canadore and are excited about the chance to work on aircraft in Canadore's hangar, but putting their skills into practice and working with licensed aircraft maintenance engineers on aircraft that fly every day is a challenge that really gets their adrenaline flowing.

For partners, this collaboration is an opportunity to give back and is embraced with enthusiasm. Students get a small taste of what the industry has to offer, and

students can see their future careers through a different lens, outside of the educational environment while receiving hands-on experiences on advanced aircraft and systems.

One partner said, "Canadore College continues to produce some of the most capable and well prepared graduates entering the aviation workforce today. Many of [our] Aircraft Maintenance Engineers began their careers in Canadore's classrooms, and their professionalism, technical skill, and commitment to safety speak volumes about the quality of the program."





SHOWCASE

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT/PHYSIOTHERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM WORKSHOPS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

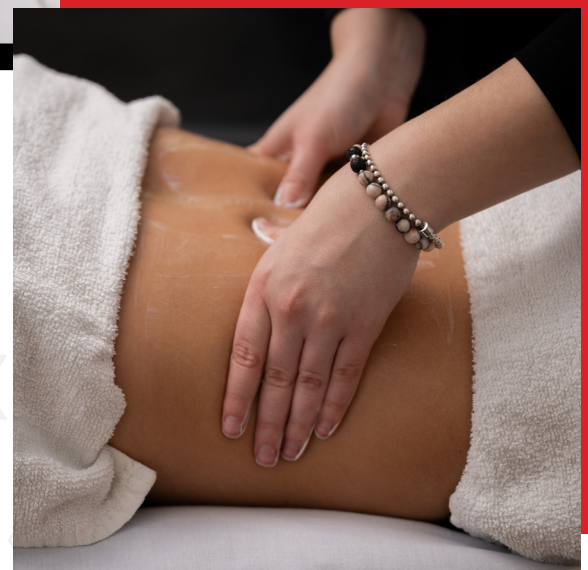
OTA/PTA students facilitate interactive demonstrations and workshops for more than 100 high school students each year related to physiotherapy and occupational therapy assistant practices.

Activities include athletic taping, physiotherapy therapeutic modalities, therapeutic exercise, safe lifts and transfers, gait training and ambulation, vital signs, rehabilitation techniques, and other hands-on activities aligned with program learning outcomes.

These events allow students to translate theoretical knowledge into practical application while developing communication, leadership, and professional skills. By

guiding secondary school participants through interactive activities, OTA/PTA students reinforce their clinical knowledge, build confidence, and develop a sense of accountability in representing their profession.

The outreach sessions also provide high school students with exposure to rehabilitation careers and post-secondary pathways in healthcare, promoting awareness and interest in the field.





SHOWCASE

‘SIM CITY’ INTERPROFESSIONAL SIMULATION

‘Sim City’ is a recurring simulation experience for students from Community and Justice Services, Police Foundations, and Social Service Worker programs where they come together for a meaningful interprofessional learning exercise.

Working through complex, real-world scenarios, students have the opportunity to collaborate, communicate, and better understand each other’s roles in supporting individuals in crisis. These hands-on experiences are essential in building the skills needed to respond effectively and compassionately once working in the community.

To enhance the experience, a number of community partners engaged in policing, mental health and social services, and crisis response services attend the simulations and dedicate their time to share knowledge and expertise through feedback and mentorship.

‘Sim City’ is a powerful example of how industry-engaged interprofessional and experiential learning can shape more responsive, collaborative, and compassionate professionals who will be better equipped to handle complex and high-pressure situations common in their fields after graduation.



INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

PREPARING LEARNERS FOR FUTURE COLLABORATION ACROSS DISCIPLINES

At Canadore College, we are creating innovative and interactive opportunities to bring students and faculty of different professions together to practice essential interprofessional collaboration competencies for working effectively in the field. These IPE experiences take place in diverse contexts (e.g., classrooms, labs, simulations, and workplaces) and progress from exposure to immersion to mastery-level learning outcomes. IPE is embedded in Canadore's Health Sciences and Human and Social Sciences faculties.

14

Number of programs with planned curricular IPE

76

Number of courses integrating IPE activities

MOVING FORWARD

KEY PRIORITIES

- ◀ Engage program areas with fewer curricular EL activities to enhance opportunities for students.
- ◀ Enhance professional development opportunities for faculty to support planning, facilitation, and evaluation of EL activities.
- ◀ Establish a strategy and execute on collecting meaningful industry feedback pertaining to EL and WIL.
- ◀ Showcase the impact of EL on students, partners, and communities through storytelling.
- ◀ Establish a focused IPE Steering Committee to further enhance planning, facilitation, and evaluation of IPE activities.

“ Canadore's focus on experiential learning and its warm, inclusive community made it the ideal place for me to grow personally and professionally
~ Personal Support Worker student

“ Practicing with simulated clients and classmates has strengthened my active listening and empathy
~ Social Service Worker student



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