

CDLRA RESEARCH STUDY

2026 Pan-Canadian Digital Learning Surveys

Principal Investigator: Dr. Nicole Johnson, Executive Director, Canadian Digital Learning Research Association (CDLRA)

The Canadian Digital Learning Research Association (CDLRA) conducts applied research to advance knowledge about digital learning strategies, policies, and practices in close collaboration with Canadian post-secondary institutions and affiliated organizations.

To view our past reports, please visit www.cdlra-acrfl.ca/publications

There are two Pan-Canadian Digital Learning Surveys:

The Digital Learning Trends survey will be open from April 13 - May 29, 2026 and the Emerging Technologies survey will be open from August 17 - October 16, 2026

Each survey has a unique set of questions on a variety of topics related to digital learning.

****Important note:** In the past we've sent one survey per institution; however, we now send the survey to multiple individuals in different roles from our roster to understand their unique, individual perspectives. We are not able to share information about other individuals at your institution who have completed the survey or who have been sent invitations to participate.*

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

Administrators, teaching and learning leaders, and faculty at Canadian post-secondary institutions.

PURPOSE OF RESEARCH

The purpose of our research is to assess and improve different aspects of digital learning across the country. The CDLRA does this by exploring emerging and ongoing trends in digital learning as they change over time. The primary objective of the research is to provide institutional leaders and key interest groups in Canadian higher education with valuable information, as they develop digital learning strategies.

WHAT WILL I BE ASKED TO DO?

Your participation in this study will involve sharing your personal perspectives through the completion of a short online survey. Participation in this study is voluntary.

HOW WILL THE INFORMATION GATHERED FROM THE STUDY BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL?

All information that is shared with the research team will be kept strictly confidential. Only the research team has access to identifiable data. Identifiable data is stored using secure software

on a password protected device. No identifying information will be shared with any other organization, including partners and sponsors. No personally identifiable information will be provided in any of the dissemination reports. If you consent, your valuable ideas and comments may be quoted in the report, but at no time will they be attributed to any one individual.

HOW WILL RESULTS BE SHARED?

The research team intends to publish and publicly share the aggregate findings of the study in a variety of ways including, but not limited to, research reports, academic journal articles, webinars and conference presentations, and blog posts. The identity of participants will not be disclosed in any reports, presentations, or publications. Numerical aggregate deidentified data about an institution may be provided to that institution. The CDLRA will not provide data and findings about an institution to other institutions, sponsors, partners, or any other person outside the institution.

You may also request a summary of the findings by contacting Dr. Nicole Johnson at nicole.johnson@cdlra-acrfl.ca.

WILL I BE COMPENSATED FOR MY PARTICIPATION?

No, compensation will not be provided for this study and your participation is completely voluntary.

ARE THERE POTENTIAL RISKS I SHOULD BE AWARE OF?

The research team does not anticipate any risks to participants.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING?

The findings of this study will be used to offer evidence-based suggestions for improving policies, programs, strategic plans, and digital resources for post-secondary institutions in Canada.

VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION AND WITHDRAWAL

Your participation in this study is voluntary and involves no foreseeable risk to you as person. You may refuse to participate or answer any questions without penalty or explanation.

ETHICAL REVIEW

This research has been reviewed by the Royal Roads University Research Ethics Board. Any questions in this regard can be addressed to ethicalreview@royalroads.ca.

CONSENT

By submitting this survey you are indicating your consent.

Please feel free to contact the Principal Investigator, Dr. Nicole Johnson, by phone at 604-825-0582 or by email at nicole.johnson@cdlra-acrfl.ca if you have any questions.