
OPEN EDUCATION REPORT | 2018

open.bcit.ca

BCIT



BCIT OPEN EDUCATION REPORT 2018

[Open Education](#) encompasses resources, tools and practices that are free of legal, financial and technical barriers and can be fully used, shared and adapted in the digital environment. Open educational practices can facilitate things such as meaningful and impactful assignments that can be shared beyond the student and instructor.

OPEN EDUCATION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Supported by [BCcampus](#), British Columbia is a trailblazing province in open education. Colleagues across the country follow BC's lead in promoting and supporting the development and use of OER (open educational resources), and supporting OEP (open education practices) at their post-secondary institutions.

The [Provincial mandate letter to BCIT](#) states that "Our first commitment is to make life more affordable. We look forward to working with you to support government's agenda to help manage the daily cost of living for British Columbians."

Of special note this year: KPU has launched [Canada's first Zed Cred](#) with [two more institutes](#) to follow. The Zed Cred guarantees that students will have zero textbook costs by using open educational resources and/or free library materials. This is the equivalent of giving each student an annual \$1000 bursary.

OPEN TEXTBOOKS

BCcampus has [estimated](#) that since 2012, over 76K BC post-secondary students have saved over \$7M. The numbers are likely quite a lot higher since this includes only statistics from BC faculty who self-report open textbook use to BCcampus.

BCIT faculty have authored the following BCcampus open textbooks:

- [A Brief Introduction to Engineering Computation with MATLAB](#), Serhat Beyenir
- [Clinical Procedures for Safer Patient Care](#), Glynda Doyle & Jodie McCutcheon
- [Graphic Design and Print Production Fundamentals](#), Wayne Collins, Alex Hass, Ken Jeffery, Alan Martin, Roberto Medeiros & Steve Tomljanovic

Serhat Beyenir, open textbook author: "The process of authoring an open textbook was totally new to me. My thoughts oscillated between two counteracting concerns and motives i) Is the material worthy of publishing? ii) It is a good way to thank BCIT for sponsoring my Master's degree program. In the end the latter outweighed the former and I published my book. In retrospective I am glad I did. I keep working on my book to improve it and each of my students have saved some money every year since 2011."

At BCIT, faculty self-reporting to BCcampus estimate that 1,435 BCIT students have saved 158K.

BCIT'S OPEN EDUCATION WORKING GROUP

The BCIT Open Education Working Group, established in 2015, supports and promotes the development and use of OER and OE teaching practices, and functions as a community of practice. The group is open to anyone who wishes to participate.

The open education working group oversees the open grants program, developed [BCIT's Open Education Best Practices and Guidelines](#), and presents open events and workshops.

BCIT OPEN GRANTS

BCIT is in its third year of providing \$5,000 [open education grants](#). These grants fund the development of Open Education Resources (OER) or give faculty time to redesign courses to incorporate open educational practices and open course materials. Some of the grants are joint-funded by BCcampus and BCIT and some are funded exclusively by BCIT. To date, nine grants have been awarded to projects which are in various states of completion. BCcampus also funded additional larger grants.

- [Physics 0312 Textbook](#), textbook adaptation, Charles Hooge
- [Physics 8400 Textbook](#), textbook adaptation, Charles Hooge
- [Simulator Laboratory: Sim Labs for Thermodynamics and Thermal Power Plant Simulator](#), Serhat Beyenir & Sanja Boskovic
- [General Electricity for Power Engineers](#), textbook, part 1, Harmesh Chander & Alok Dhungana
- [General Electricity for Power Engineers](#), textbook, part 2, Harmesh Chander & Alok Dhungana
- [Strength of Materials Supplement for Power Engineering](#), Alex Podut
- [Workplace Soft Skills for Indigenous Trades Students](#), learning module, Kory Wilson & Tara Mollett
- [Standards of Practice Manuals \[2\]](#), UAS Missions, Eric Suczak
- [Animal Dissection Images Library](#) – approximately 200 cross-sectional images [40 labeled pages] of eight specimens, Sabrina Cornish Shartau & Carol Wenzel
- [Health Case Studies](#), Glynda Rees, Rob Kruger, Janet Morrison

OPEN.BCIT.CA

BCIT has recently established an [open repository](#) and [information site](#). All projects funded by BCIT open grants are held in the repository upon completion. The repository is available to house any research, learning resources, learning objects, or projects that are openly licensed.

BCIT has hosted several open events, including a lecture by Dr. Rajiv Jhangiani, [The Future is Open](#) and UBC Engineering faculty delivering a workshop on [WeBWork Open Problem Library](#).

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

The BCIT student association ran its first [#textbookbroke](#) campaign in January 2018. SA Executive members Abby Tabaco, Spencer Pollock, and Christian Colquhoun were involved with the BCIT Open Working Group. Sergey Bukharov, BCITSA President, participated in a student panel at the [Open in Action](#) event at KPU

BCIT IN THE PROVINCE AND BEYOND

Kory Wilson is on the steering committee for the [Indigenization Project](#). Kory gave the keynote talks at both the [Open Textbook Summit](#) and at [Open in Action](#).

Rosario Passos was seconded by BCcampus in 2016/17 to act as an Advisor for Open Education. In her role at BCcampus, she supported Open Education activities at BCIT and other post-secondary institutions, returning to BCIT with even more open education expertise.

Ken Jeffery was a 2017/18 BCcampus Open Education Advocacy and Research Fellow.

Several BCIT faculty have been active in provincial open education groups and projects, and have presented at many provincial, national, and international conferences and events on the subject of open education.

**British Columbia
Institute of Technology**

3700 Willingdon Avenue
Burnaby, British Columbia
Canada, V5G 3H2

bcit.ca/library

