



MEDIA RELEASE

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The Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada (ARUCC) announces the official launch of MyCreds™ | MesCertif™, the national, bilingual credential wallet supported by a comprehensive website for Canada's post-secondary community and learners

With this new credential wallet and website, <u>ARUCC</u> is helping Canada's colleges and universities deliver digitized and portable transcripts and credentials - including badges and microcredentials - to post-secondary learners online – anytime, anywhere.

This new platform and supporting website are available for learners, employers, verifiers and third parties. Visit www.mycreds.ca or www.mescertif.ca for more information.

Colleges and universities across Canada are joining the MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ family to provide their students and graduates access to their new personalized wallet. Easy access for learners to the credential wallet is possible once their college or university joins and notifies them that their credential wallet is ready.

The new platform and website are supported by two Vancouver based firms: <u>Digitary</u>, which is an internationally renowned document issuing company, and <u>Split Mango</u>, a Canadian website design firm. Through this work, ARUCC is transforming service delivery to learners by providing expedited access to their official transcripts and credentials. The bilingual websites provide information about the <u>MyCreds™ | MesCertif™</u> credential wallet and the extensive array of benefits for learners, employers and other third-parties.

MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ results from the efforts for four partnering organizations whose members have worked collaboratively to achieve this outcome through the ARUCC National Network Project. These organizations include ARUCC, the Pan-Canadian Consortium on Admissions and Transfer (PCCAT), the Canadian University Council of Chief Information Officers (CUCCIO), and the Canadian Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (CanPESC) User Group.

"Today is an exciting milestone for our national community and for Canadian post-secondary students and graduates in general as we progress to the next stage of providing a dedicated digital credential wallet for Canadian post-secondary students," says Romesh Vadivel, president, ARUCC. "We are ontrack to achieve our ultimate goal, which is the full launch of a national, secure digital network through which domestic and international students may share their official, digitized post-secondary transcripts and credentials."

Key benefits to learners offered through MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ include a personalized learner credential wallet with 24/7 access; bilingual service and support (French and English); and the ability for them to access, view, control and share their verified and official transcripts, credentials, badges, micro-credentials and documents in a digitized format anytime and anywhere.

The National Network continues to expand nationwide with new post-secondary institutions joining from across Canada. A sample of the first 30+ post-secondary institutions and other organizations confirmed as early adopters include ApplyAlberta, Bow Valley College, Dalhousie University, Douglas College, EducationPlannerBC, HEC Montréal, Humber College, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Lambton College, Lethbridge College, McGill University, McMaster University, Memorial University, Mohawk College, Nova Scotia Council on Admissions and Transfer, OCAS, Ontario Universities' Application Centre, Red River College, Ryerson University, Seneca College, University of Calgary, University of Guelph, University of King's College, University of Lethbridge, University of Northern British Columbia, University of Prince Edward Island, University of Regina, University of Saskatchewan, University of

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Waterloo, Western University and York University. Stay tuned for further announcements as each college and university onboards to MyCreds™ | MesCertif™.

Charmaine Hack, chair, ARUCC National Network Project; registrar, Ryerson University - "As the registrar of a larger, urban university, the provision of digitized credentials to post-secondary learners across Canada is hugely beneficial, particularly given the COVID situation. We work tirelessly to help our students, graduates and alumni showcase their academic achievements and propel them forward into their careers. Trusted, secure digital credentials can enable our post-secondary learners with anytime access to their own verified credentials which can be shared with whomever they choose. We at Ryerson have already launched the credential wallet to over 10,000 of our students and graduates using the Digitary platform and will soon move to the bilingual MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ branded credential wallet."

Sharon Kinasz, registrar, Seneca College, "It's wonderful to see the launch of the dedicated bilingual sites in English via the MyCreds™ website and in French via the website MesCertif™ – providing valuable information to learners, post-secondary institutions, employers and third-party verifiers. We have already launched on the Digitary platform and have provided a digitized credential wallet to close to 2,000 of our learners and graduates. We are excited to soon move to the MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ environment."

"Digitary is honoured to support the creation and nationwide rollout of the Canadian MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ platform and wallet. As a global leader in the digital credentialing space, our focus has always centred around the learner and providing effective digital solutions which enable learners' mobility and enhance their employability. We're delighted to help bring MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ to Canada's learner community and see that accessibility extended today through bilingual websites providing dedicated information and support," says James Murray-Beckman, chief operating officer, Digitary.

Digitary's extensive suite of products and services includes digital badges and micro-credentials, blockchain technology, and self-sovereign identity (SSI) solutions, in addition to its proprietary Digitary CORE cloud-based platform for certifying, sharing and verifying academic credentials.

About ARUCC

The Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada (ARUCC) provides leadership in the post-secondary education field and service to its member institutions nationally and internationally, helping foster the advancement of registrarial practices and learner focused service delivery in Canada. For more information about the National Network and the MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ credential wallet, contact the project's Executive Lead, Joanne Duklas, at info@aruccnationalnetwork.ca or visit https://mycreds.ca/.

About Digitary

Digitary was launched in Dublin, Ireland in 2005, and has grown to become a leading online platform for certifying, sharing, and verifying academic credentials. Learner-centric since the very start, Digitary enables millions of learners to share their verified academic achievements online, securely, quickly and easily. Digitary is now used by organisations in over 135 countries. For further details visit www.digitary.net

About PCCAT - https://pccat.ca/pccat/

PCCAT is a Canadian not-for-profit consortium that seeks to create and advance the implementation of policies and practices supporting student mobility and transfer to improve access to post-secondary education in Canada. Its members include representatives of post-secondary institutions, industry, government and provincial and national associations dedicated to supporting and advancing learner mobility.

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About CUCCIO - https://www.cuccio.net/en/

CUCCIO is Canada's community of information technology leaders in higher education, working together to help Canadian universities excel through the innovative and effective use of IT. Incorporated in 2006, CUCCIO is the result of almost 40 years of information-sharing, collaboration, knowledge creation and advocacy among provincial and regional associations of IT leaders in post-secondary education. Today, CUCCIO is a non-profit, member-funded corporation representing more than 70 universities Canada-wide, who collectively serve over 90% of Canada's university students.

About CanPESC - https://www.pesc.org/canadian-pesc-user-group.html

CanPESC is a user group of the American based Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council. Its mandate is developing shared interoperability across Canadian post-secondary institutions and higher education by supporting the implementation of data exchange standards to facilitate learner mobility through data portability. Its members include Canadian colleges, universities, application centres, and government, and other organizations and industry partners involved in higher education data exchange.

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AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT:

ARUCC project chair and past-president, ARUCC – Charmaine Hack ARUCC executive lead – Joanne Duklas Digitary chief operating officer – James Murray-Beckman

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