

ABEL Summer Institute 2010

What is ABEL?

ABEL stands for the Advanced Broadband-Enabled Learning program. ABEL promotes sharing and knowledge collaboration through its professional learning program and its virtual communities. Founded in 2002, the ABEL program is led and funded by York University (Toronto) and the York Region District School Board (YRDSB).

Since its inception, the ABEL program has been working with educators in classrooms across Canada, and has established national and international credibility as an authority in new modes of learning into classrooms.

ABEL Summer Institute

Every summer, the ABEL program hosts a forum for all ABEL members: the ABEL Summer Institute (ASI). It is a great opportunity for ABEL members to meet face-to-face and exchange stories and ideas about their experiences with ABEL technology for the past school year and plan for the upcoming school year. Featuring guest speakers, ASI offers seminars, presentations, group discussions, hands-on workshops and sessions for the development of curriculum ideas and the integration of technology for the upcoming school year.

Audience

- ✓ Teachers, Principals, Administrators, Faculty, Policy Makers
- ✓ Key influencers who shape the educational system locally, provincially, and across Canada
- ✓ 200 – 300 attendees each year

ABEL Summer Institute (ASI) 2010

Theme	Creating the Future Now
Date	August 23, 24, 25, 2010
Place	York University, Keele Campus
Keynote Speaker	Dr. Alec Couros, Professor of Educational Technology and Media and the Coordinator of Information and Communications Technology at the Faculty of Education, University of Regina.

Feedback from 2009

- ✓ 100% of participants would rate the SI as good, very good, or excellent.
- ✓ 100% feel better prepared to use ABEL tools and resources in their classroom/school/workplace because they attended this summer institute.
- ✓ 98% found the keynote address by Max Valiquette (Youthography) insightful and that it motivated them to use technology in their classroom/school/workplace for authentic learning and student success.
- ✓ 85% appreciated the opportunities to experience the power and potential of social networking that this summer institute offered.
- ✓ 100% found ASI to be a very worthwhile experience and use of their time.

“Every session I attended (Podcasting, Mahara and ePearl, Let’s Get Graphic, Collaboration with Google Docs, Cell Phones in the Classroom and Go Paperless) gave me mind-blowing, if not ‘just’ inspiring ideas that I can use right away.” ~ASI 2009 Delegate

2010 SI Theme: **Creating the Future Now**

- ✓ Purpose to strengthen ABEL communities by connecting people to people, by sharing ideas and exchanging information and knowledge with the intent to impact the social fabric of the community.

Green Conference 2010

2010 ASI has been planned according to [Environment Canada's Green Meeting Guide](#). ASI has focused on reducing waste in areas such as energy consumption, procurement, communications, logistics, and food and beverage services. See below for more!



Every delegate receives a USB stick. This stick is “green” in two ways: it saves paper by reducing the amount of printing as all supplementary delegate materials load automatically through a browser when the USB memory stick is plugged in. Also, this USB stick is RoHS compliant, which means it contains little or no lead, cadmium or mercury metals hazardous to people and the environment.



Delegates will be provided with a travel mug during the ASI conference for hot and cold beverages. Having this mug will replace the need for plastic bottled drinks and disposable cups.



This year’s eco-friendly pen is made of 67% recycled content.



When preparing printed materials, ASI has focused on reducing waste by limiting the size and quantity of printing, printing double-sided on recycled paper whenever possible and avoiding large blocks of colour.



Sobeys’ Canvas Bag Delegates will be provided with a reusable canvas bag for their conference materials, donated by Sobeys.



Aramark will be catering the breaks and lunches during ASI 10. Aramark has taken measures to provide beverages and spreads in bulk as well as fruit instead of single packaged snacks to minimize packaging waste. Packaging and wrapping used will be biodegradable.

ABEL SI 2010 Advantage

- ✓ The Advanced Broadband Enabled Learning (ABEL) program transforms learning by connecting people.
- ✓ It strives to improve results through its networks for knowledge sharing and collaboration and its professional learning program.
- ✓ ABEL integrates new and existing technologies to develop and inform new models for teaching and learning.
- ✓ ABEL offers educators, school board leaders and students an opportunity to work with the latest technologies and learn from expert users each year at the ABEL Summer Institute.
- ✓ The next Summer Institute (our 9th!) is scheduled for August 23 – 25, 2010 at York University.
- ✓ An excellent opportunity to connect with highly engaged, enthusiastic and influential users of technology in teaching and learning settings.
- ✓ The theme for the 2010 Summer Institute is **Creating the Future Now**, and will facilitate group discussion and hands-on workshops that promote new models of learning, knowledge and community building
- ✓ We are anticipating approximately 250 delegates in 2010 from educational institutions, and from the private and public sector.

About ABEL

- ✓ The award-winning Advanced Broadband Enabled Learning (ABEL) program strives to improve results through its professional learning program and its virtual community for sharing knowledge and collaboration. Through both public and private sector partnerships and a research-based approach, ABEL integrates new and existing information communication technologies (ICT) in teaching and learning. The combination of its networks, partnerships and a focus on research results in innovative models for teaching and learning that drive institutional transformation and create new opportunities.
- ✓ Founded in 2002, the ABEL program is led and funded by York University (Toronto) and the York Region District School Board (YRDSB). Since its inception, the ABEL program has been working with educators in classrooms across Canada. The program has established national and international credibility as an authority in new modes of learning into classrooms.

Benefits to Companies

- ✓ Opportunity to affiliate with Canada's third largest and highly reputable University
- ✓ Opportunity to showcase products and engage with educators and decision makers face-to-face
- ✓ Chance to build profile of company and credibility through hands-on interaction
- ✓ Chance to invest in SI and advance learning using green initiatives
- ✓ Chance to attend as a delegate and help shape the knowledge community