



3rd Franco-Ontarian Forum

Innovating Education for Tomorrow

November 18, 2025

INNOVA — University of Ottawa (Ottawa, Ontario)

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REFAD is the national network connecting Canada's French-language distance education community. By fostering collaboration, innovation, and the sharing of best practices, REFAD helps shape the future of online learning in Francophone education across Canada and beyond.



Welcome to eCampusOntario's

3rd Franco-Ontarian Forum

Innovating Education for Tomorrow

The 3rd Franco-Ontarian Forum brings together Francophone educators, leaders, researchers, and innovators to discuss future-focused, technology-enabled education in Francophone and bilingual contexts. Held at INNOVA, Ottawa, Ontario on November 18, the main theme is Innovating Education for Tomorrow / Innover l'éducation pour demain.

Conference tracks include:



AI for Francophone Education:

Responsible integration,
educational uses, digital literacies.



Innovative Leadership and an Inclusive Future:

Governance, equity, inclusion,
student well being.



Open Innovation and Resource Sharing:

OER, co creation,
inter-institutional sharing.

About eCampusOntario

eCampusOntario is a not-for-profit organization that accelerates the transformation of postsecondary digital learning in Ontario to increase participation in higher education. eCampusOntario leads a consortium of the province's publicly-assisted colleges, universities and Indigenous institutes to advance the development and adoption of online and digital learning technologies, programs and environments.

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the land we are meeting on across Ontario. The eCampusOntario offices are located on the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that land is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.



Featured Presenters:

Keynotes



Geneviève Maheux-Pelletier, PhD

Associate Vice-President Academic and Associate Professor, Université de l'Ontario français, Project Management Professional

Geneviève Maheux-Pelletier, PhD, is Associate Vice-President, Teaching at the Université de l'Ontario français. With over twenty years of experience in higher education, she is actively engaged in promoting French-language education in minority contexts. Her expertise spans curriculum planning, faculty pedagogical support, and the integration of digital and experiential approaches to enhance the accessibility and relevance of postsecondary education. Originally from Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean, she has worked in universities in the United States, France, and Canada. She has taught French as a Second Language (FSL)

pedagogy at the University of Toronto and directed an FSL program at the University of Alberta. Her work has been published in collective volumes and journals such as *Teaching in Higher Education* and the *Canadian Journal for the Advancement of Knowledge in Teaching and Learning*.



Lynn Casimiro

President and CEO, La Cité College

Dr. Lynn Casimiro is the President and CEO of Collège La Cité. She previously served as Vice President of Education and Student Success at the college. She was an associate professor at the Université de l'Ontario français. She is Chair of the Board of the Réseau des cégeps et collèges francophones du Canada and serves on the boards of the National Consortium for the Development of Educational Resources in French and the Institut du Savoir Montfort's Scientific Committee.

Earlier in her career, she was Director of Education and founding Chair of Montfort Hospital's Research Ethics Board, where she led research on French-language service delivery and interprofessional health care. She also served as Director of the Academic Health Council and as a Development Advisor at the CNFS–University of Ottawa. A passionate advocate for andragogy, Dr. Casimiro holds degrees in Physical Therapy, Physical Activity, Education (PhD), and Public Administration.



Featured Presenters:

Hosted by



Aline Germain-Rutherford, Ph.D.

Full Professor, Faculty of Education University of Ottawa

Adjunct Professor, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

Dr. Aline Germain-Rutherford is a full professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of Ottawa and an adjunct professor at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic. Former Vice-Provost of Academic Affairs and Associate Vice-President of Teaching and Learning at the University of Ottawa, she has dedicated her career to educational innovation and digital learning environments. Since 2008, she has been collaborating with the Council of Europe's European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML) and recently joined the Camerise Communities project and its executive committee. Her research focuses on faculty professional development, creativity and plurilingualism, as well as the integration of speech technologies and active approaches in online training. A guest speaker in Europe, North America, Asia, Africa and the Middle East, she is also a recipient of the 3M National Teaching Award, a prestigious Canadian award that honours excellence and leadership in higher education.



Featured Presentations

Keynotes

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM | 604 - Interactive Classroom

Connected Minds, Disrupted Knowledge? Rethinking Learning in the Era of Generative AI

Generative artificial intelligence is changing how students approach learning and interact with knowledge. Positioned between a supportive tool and a substitute for thoughtful engagement, AI is disrupting long-standing academic norms related to effort, creativity, and integrity. In Francophone educational contexts, these transformations also raise important questions about language inclusion, equitable access to learning, and the recognition of non-dominant epistemologies.

This presentation brings together the perspectives of a professor and a student to reflect on how learners are using generative AI and the shared responsibilities of guiding its use in higher education. Using concrete examples and current pedagogical frameworks, we will explore how generative AI can support thoughtful decision-making, critical thinking, and collaborative meaning-making rather than simply offering shortcuts to knowledge.

- **Geneviève Maheux-Pelletier, PhD**, Associate Vice-President, Academic and Associate Professor, Université de l'Ontario français
- **Aline Makamba Kapasa**
- **Irenaba Akobi** (non-presenting collaborator)

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM | 632 - Interactive Classroom

The Future is Written in French: AI, Inclusion, and Innovation at Collège La Cité

This presentation highlights how Collège La Cité contributes to a francophone learning ecosystem where artificial intelligence, cross-sector collaboration, and inclusive leadership come together. Through concrete projects focused on pedagogical reinvention, co-creation, and resource sharing, we will explore how innovation supports access, success, and the cultural vitality of francophone postsecondary communities in Ontario.

- **Lynn Casimiro, PhD**, President and CEO, La Cité College



Program

TIME	SESSIONS	
	604 INTERACTIVE CLASSROOM	632 INTERACTIVE CLASSROOM
8:30 AM –9:00 AM	Registration & Breakfast	
9:00 AM –9:20 AM	Inauguration & Land Acknowledgement Welcome remarks from leadership	Livestreaming 604 Inauguration & Land Acknowledgement Welcome remarks from leadership
9:20 AM –9:30 AM	Break	
9:30 AM – 10:30 AM	KEYNOTE Connected Minds, Blurred Knowledge? Rethinking Learning in the Algorithmic Era • Geneviève Maheux-Pelletier, PhD, Associate Vice-President, Academic and Associate Professor, Université de l'Ontario français • Aline Makamba Kapasa • Irenaba Olushegun-Akobi (non-presenting collaborator)	KEYNOTE The Future is Written in French: AI, Inclusion, and Innovation at Collège La Cité • Lynn Casimiro, PhD, President and CEO, La Cité College
10:30 AM –10:50 AM	Coffee & Networking Break	
10:50 AM –11:35 AM	SYMPOSIUM 1: Supervising the Ethical Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence in Minority Francophone Universities in Ontario • Patrick Molicard-Chartier, Senior Educational Developer, Université de l'Ontario français	Universal Accommodations in a Large Class Setting • Alain St-Amant, Vice-Provost, Academic Affairs, University of Ottawa
	SYMPOSIUM 2: What Future for Translation? Its Pedagogical Value in the Age of Artificial Intelligence • Dr. Carmen McCarron, Assistant Professor, King's University College, Western University	
	SYMPOSIUM 3: Rethinking Writing in French in the Age of Generative AI • Leinna Dahmani, French Professor, Learning Development Coordinator, La Cité College • Dr. Dina Noaman ElDidi, French Professor, Learning Development Coordinator, La Cité College	



Program

TIME	SESSIONS	
11:35 AM –11:45 AM	Break	
	604 INTERACTIVE CLASSROOM	632 INTERACTIVE CLASSROOM
11:45 AM –12:30 PM	Panel #1 - Franco Universities • Yves Y. Pelletier, Associate Vice-President, Francophonie, University of Ottawa • Serge Miville, President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Sudbury	SYMPOSIUM 4: Seeds for the Future: Environmental and Climate Change Education • Dieu Le Grace Mbiatcha, Doctoral student, University of Ottawa • Liliane Dionne, Professor, University of Ottawa SYMPOSIUM 5: When Training Meets Practice: A Pilot Co-Creation of OER in an Ontario Minority Francophone Context • Megan Cotnam-Kappe, Associate Professor and Associate Dean, Holder of the Research Chair in the Digital Flourishing of Franco-Ontarian Communities, University of Ottawa • Catherine Lachaine, Interim Head, Collections Strategy, and PhD Candidate in Education, University of Ottawa
12:30 PM –1:30 PM	Lunch	
1:30 PM –2:45 PM	Fostering Professional Development for FSL Professors: Easily Create, Publish, and Share Attractive, Collaborative, and Ethical Educational Resources • Dominique Scheffel-Dunant, Directrice, Cycles supérieurs en Études francophones, Lead, Camerise Formation & Recherche (FSL Hub, Université York), Professeure agrégée, Études françaises, Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies, York University • Olivier Alfieri, Architecte de la formation digitale CEO & Founder Elearning.Studio / FLS-ESL training, York University E-learning Studio	Panel #2 - Colleges • Marc Antoine Benglia, Director, InnovaCite, La Cité College • Nicole Dubuc-Charbonneau, Director, Vice-President's Office, Collège Boréal
2:45 PM –3:15 PM	Break & Tech Demo (ARHT holographic capsule)	



Program

TIME	SESSIONS	
	604 INTERACTIVE CLASSROOM	632 INTERACTIVE CLASSROOM
3:15 PM –4:30 PM	Developing Skills and Inspiring Models for Francophone Communities	ROUNDTABLE Cross Perspectives on the Skills of the Future: (Re)Thinking Francophone Education in the Age of Artificial Intelligence
	• Noel Baldwin, Executive Director, Future Skills Centre • Steve Richter, Manager, Policy, Future Skills Centre	• André Villeneuve, Professor of educational administration at UQTR, dean of the “Training and Professional Development” axis at GRIDE, and co-founder of the CADENCE laboratory, UQTR • Philippe Toussignant, Founder and CEO of Ecohesia, Specialist in education and international cooperation, Lecturer at the University of Montreal. • Julie Beaupré, Digital Education Project Manager at the UQAM Innovation and University Pedagogy Hub • Mohamed Sabri, Founder of Rocket Science, Artificial Intelligence Expert, Author and Professor at MIT
4:30 PM –4:40 PM	Break	
4:40 PM –5:00 PM	Livestream 632 Closing Remarks	Closing Remarks Reflections & preview of upcoming initiatives
5:00 PM –6:00 PM	Networking Social	



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