

# Systems



Canadian Association for Professional Learning Assessment  
— supporting the development of professional learning systems —

Association canadienne pour la reconnaissance des apprentissages  
— soutenant les systèmes d'apprentissage professionnels —

The 2015 Recognizing Learning Conference  
**THE BOOT**  
CAPLA  
RPL **CAMP**

# CAPLA RPL Boot Camp

## RPL Systems

### A Snapshot of Key Components

Station Leader- Deb Blower

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# RPL Systems Station

## Definition of RPL\*

- ***Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is a set of processes that allows individuals to identify, document, be assessed and gain recognition for their prior learning.***
- *The focus is on the learning, rather than on where or how the learning occurred.*
- *Knowledge, skills and abilities gained from life experiences may be **formal, informal or non formal.***



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## Definition of RPL\* cont'd

- *RPL processes may serve several purposes including: licensure, credit or advanced standing at an academic institution, employment, career planning, recruitment or self- knowledge.*

*\*Quality Assurance for the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) in Canada-  
THE MANUAL (CAPLA, 2015)*



# RPL Systems Station

## ➤ Welcome

## ➤ RPL Boot Camp Outcomes

1. Describe key RPL components from each of the 5 RPL Stations to enhance quality RPL practice.

Outline some basic components necessary for a quality RPL system.

2. Share ideas on how RPL components from each of the 5 areas could be used in your organization to enhance quality RPL practice.

Describe examples of quality RPL system components that are currently in place and some that could be implemented in your current organization to enhance quality RPL practice.



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What area do you work in....

- Employment and career counselling?
- Immigrant serving agencies?
- Employers?
- Professional organizations and regulatory bodies?
- Sector councils and industry?
- Post secondary institutions? Secondary institutions?
- Assessors, trainers, educators?
- Individuals utilizing RPL?
- Other?



# RPL Systems Station

- Setting the Stage
- RPL Systems- A Snapshot of Key Components!
- RPL Systems Handout



# RPL Systems Station

## Activity #1- RPL Systems Quiz

Please answer the questions ...**Yes**...**In Process**...**No**

- Is there a commitment to RPL *across* your organization/institution?
- Are there clear policies, procedures and processes in place?
- Are there well developed learning outcomes/competencies and sound assessment practices for assessing learning?





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- Have good tools and resources been developed- for individuals/learners, advisors /assessors etc?
- Is RPL professional development and training available? Mentoring in RPL?
- Are communication strategies in place for internal and external stakeholders?
- Is RPL data collected? Are reports available on RPL activity? Are RPL practices and services evaluated for continuous improvement?



# RPL Systems Station

**Why is a RPL *system* so important?**

**What's critical for a quality RPL system?**

- Commitment to RPL
- RPL Policies, Procedures and Processes
- Development and implementation of clear learning outcomes/competencies and sound assessment practices.



# RPL Systems

## What's critical for a quality RPL system? cont'd

- Development and implementation of tools and resources
- Professional development, training and mentoring in RPL for those involved
- Communication, Communication
- Data Collection, Reporting and Evaluation of RPL System



# RPL Systems Station

## #1. Commitment to RPL

- Why?
- How does RPL fit within the organization?
- What does it mean to commit to a quality RPL system?
- Who are the key players/stakeholders?
- Who are the champions in the RPL system?



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## #1. Commitment to RPL cont'd

- Importance of **strategically planning** for RPL system implementation

Initial consultation and planning

RPL Vision, Goals, Outcomes

Key focus areas for RPL planning



# RPL Systems Station

## Activity #2 RPL Key Players/Stakeholders

1. Make a list of the key players/stakeholders *who are involved/who need to be involved* in RPL in your organization.
2. Brief discussion
3. Continue to add to your Key Player list through out the session.



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## #2. Development and implementation of RPL Policies, Procedures and Processes

- Policies- examples of international standards, pan Canadian - *Guiding Principles for Quality RPL Practice in Canada*, specific organizational/institutional policies
- Important Policy areas
- System Coordination –Policies, Procedures, Processes



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**#3. Development and implementation of clear learning outcomes/competencies and sound assessment practices for assessing learning.**

CAPLA RPL Boot Camp- Assessment Station with  
Station Leader - Philip Mondor





# RPL Systems Station

**#4. Development and implementation of tools and resources for individuals/learners, advisors, assessors and others involved in RPL practices and services.**

CAPLA RPL Boot Camp- Tools Station with  
Station Leader - Gail Hall



# RPL Systems

## #5. Building Capacity- Professional Development, Training and Mentoring in RPL

- Why? What type of PD/training is needed?
- CAPLA's PLAR/RPL Practitioner Competencies- Advisor, Assessor and Administrator/Facilitator Self Assessments (2006), recent discussions (2013, 2014)
- RPL Practitioner training and resources
- Mentoring in RPL



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## #6. Communication! Communication! Communication!

- Key for a quality RPL System – Plan for it !
- Internal
- External



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## #7. Data Collection, Reporting and Evaluation of RPL System

- Data collection
- Reporting on RPL practices and services
- Evaluation of RPL system for continuous improvement.



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Let's check your

**RPL Key Players/Stakeholders list.....**

**Any additions??**



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Using the RPL Quality Assurance Self Audit Checklists from THE MANUAL

- **Quality RPL Systems Self Audit Checklists**
- **RPL Quality Procedures Self Audit Checklists**



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- **Summary and Moving Forward**
- **Additional information and resources- RPL Stations hand out**
- **Any Questions???**



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**Thank you very much for your participation in the RPL Systems Station !**

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