

Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer 180 Dundas Street West, Suite 1902 Toronto, Ontario M5G 1Z8

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## 2014 Student Pathways in Higher Education Conference April 28 – 29, 2014

SPEAKING NOTES Check against delivery

AGM
Don Lovisa
ONCAT Co-Chair
President of Durham College

Welcome to ONCAT's Annual General meeting and pleased to see so many of you joining us this morning.

If you were at our last AGM, you'll remember that we decided that in to better engage with our council members, we agreed to hold our future AGMs in conjunction with our annual conference.

With that in mind, the AGM is now open to all conference participants...however, there will be some official voting restricted to Council members only.

If you are a member of the Council or are here today as a delegate, please ensure that you have an orange voting card.

This is my last meeting as ONCAT Co-Chair since my tenure is coming to an end, and so I thought I would start by saying how proud I am to have been ONCAT's inaugural Co-Chair.

In this role I have had the opportunity to work with my peers in the postsecondary sector and help guide the credit transfer discussions in this province. And it really is incredible to see how institutional collaboration is changing the culture of credit transfer in Ontario and responding to the needs of students.

Since more than 21,500 students transfer among institutions each year, the work we continue to do is so important.

Since the creation of ONCAT in 2011, transfer pathways on ONTransfer.ca has increased from about 300 to more than 650, creating more than 35,000 student transfer opportunities for students.

Perhaps what's more impressive is that in just this last year alone we've launched several firsts for Ontario.

In January, we launched the Course-to-Course Transfer Guide on ONTransfer.ca.

Students can now enter their transcript information and look up which of their completed courses will be accepted for credit by other Ontario institutions... and already there are more than 80,000 course equivalencies in the Guide.

And also on ONTransfer.ca, students can find credit transfer policies and procedures of each institution.

Your dedication and commitment to collaborating with your colleagues is changing the culture of credit transfer in Ontario.

And while my term is coming to end as Co-Chair, my commitment to students and the credit transfer system does not end here...there is still more to do.

Already, ONCAT has started the work to identify best practices in credit transfer policies and procedures, while also focusing on strengthening pathways for students who transfer between degrees.

These initiatives will build on the foundations of what we've already done together, and move us closer to creating a made-in-Ontario credit transfer system.

I would like to thank my Co-Chair Dominic Giroux, and the rest of the Board of Directors...it has been a pleasure to work with all of you.

I would like to thank Glenn Craney, Executive Director at ONCAT and his team for their continued hard work.

I finally, I would like to everyone at Ontario's 44 publicly funded institutions, whose time, commitment and dedication continue to change the credit transfer culture.

Thank you.