

Instructional Resource Centres' (IRC) Strategic Plan - 2018-2023*

*To be reviewed after release of the Faculty of Education's Strategic Plan.

Mission

To provide specialized instructional resources and services inclusively supporting Faculty of Education programs, professional development, research and community through the promotion and circulation of Early Childhood Education and Kindergarten to Grade 12 Library and Media curriculum resources.

Vision

A collaborative learning environment, inspiring and supporting innovative use of technologies, and modeling evolving educational pedagogy.

Values

- Character Education
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Digital Citizenship



Student Experience

The IRC inspires learning! Our goal is to provide a welcoming and empathetic environment suitable for student success.

- Enhances learning using the most current and relevant ECE, K-12 curriculum, multi-media and hands-on resources.
- Nurtures respectful spaces to ensure a safe and inclusive learning environment.
- Infuses specialized events for growth in learning (e.g., Makerspace, Future Ready Sessions).
- Meaningful research opportunities transforming education of the future.
- Develops solid relationships for ongoing collaboration with alumni.

Access and Equity

The IRC seeks to maintain services and support, fostering an inclusive and engaging experience for all patrons.

- Provides equitable and diverse resources and technologies for circulation and virtual access.
- Integrates learning and physical spaces for maximized potential.
- Offers convenient access to all resources at the Hamilton and St. Catharines Campuses.
- Enhances discoverability of relevant digital content (e.g., Q&A Bot, IRC open access site).

Innovation in Teaching and Learning Excellence

The IRC pioneers innovative teaching and learning by promoting the use and integration of future ready technologies, creativity and digital citizenship.

- Enriches access to specialized multi-media resources and services.
- Fosters an environment conducive to emergent and evolving technologies.
- Promotes empathy and design thinking to problem solve within real-world contexts.
- Integrates technologies and resources across program content that encourage active learning, communication and collaboration.
- Inspires a culture of computational thinking and develop a critical thinking mindset for future ready outcomes.

Community Engagement

The IRC believes in the importance of leveraging community relationships and knowledge sharing within the University, Ontario Ministry of Education, Ontario College of Teachers, Ontario School Boards, and Curriculum Resource Centres across Canada and beyond.

- Negotiates funding and resource networks from a variety of sources (e.g., publishers, vendors, community outreach).
- Engages community collaboration and networking through attendance at various conferences, maintaining association memberships and continuing to be a leader in providing events for greater influence within the field of education and broader community.
- Builds supportive, cooperative foundations for continued alumni relationships.

Evolving Dynamics

The IRC promotes evolving literacies and access to a constantly changing, connected world, and provides a safe hub of specialized information to make well informed, ethical decisions.

- Advocates for specialized and trained staff required to maintain ongoing support.
- Models classroom environments and tools which encourage empowered learning.
- Inspires a culture of creativity and understanding for evolving visions.
- Articulates goals of the IRC to align with the Faculty of Education and University Strategic Mandate.
- Empathizes with the world around us by making meaningful global connections, meeting diverse needs and perspectives; and making a positive impression.