

The background of the slide is a photograph of a hallway with a large, colorful world map on the wall. The map uses a color scheme where North America is green, Europe and Africa are red, Asia is blue, and Australia is yellow. To the left, a glass-walled room is visible, containing a green bench and a sign that reads 'VCC International Classroom'.

VANCOUVER  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE

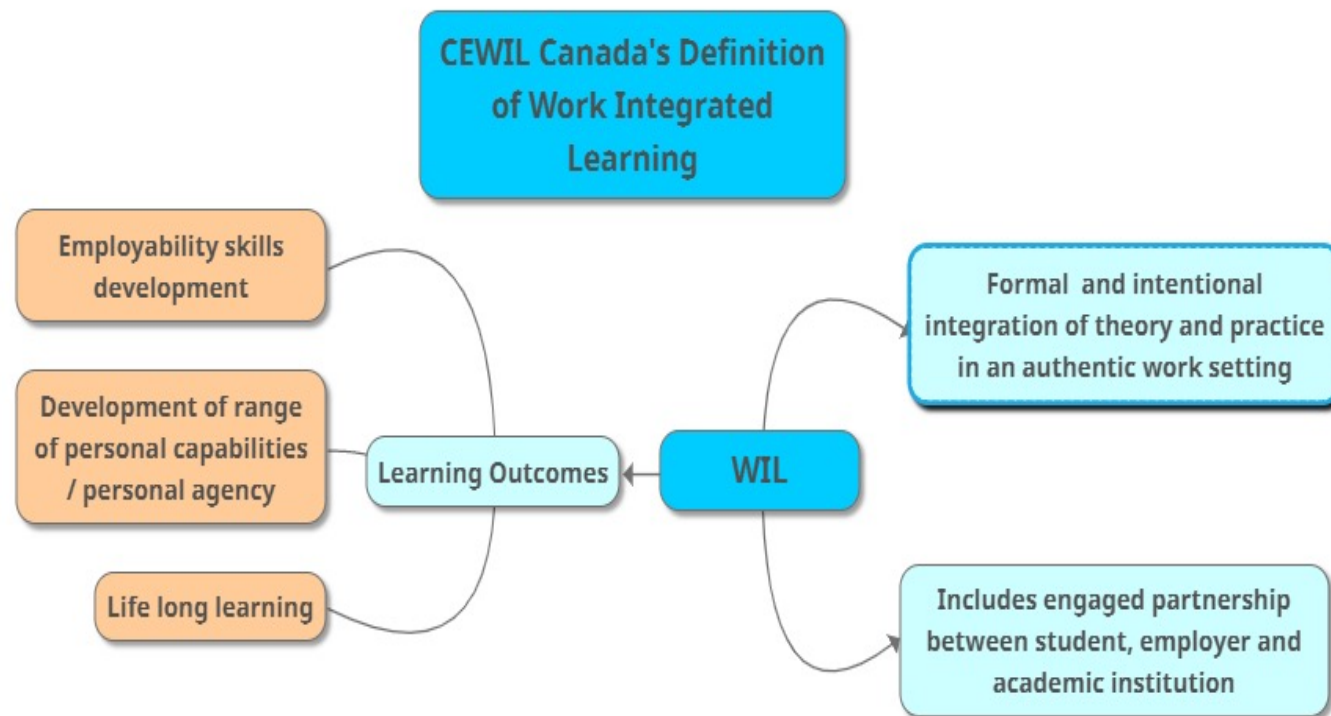
## VCC Work Integrated Learning (WIL) Instruction Research - Experience and Highlights

Pam Khinda

Dr. Candy Ho

# Work Integrated Learning (WIL) - Definition

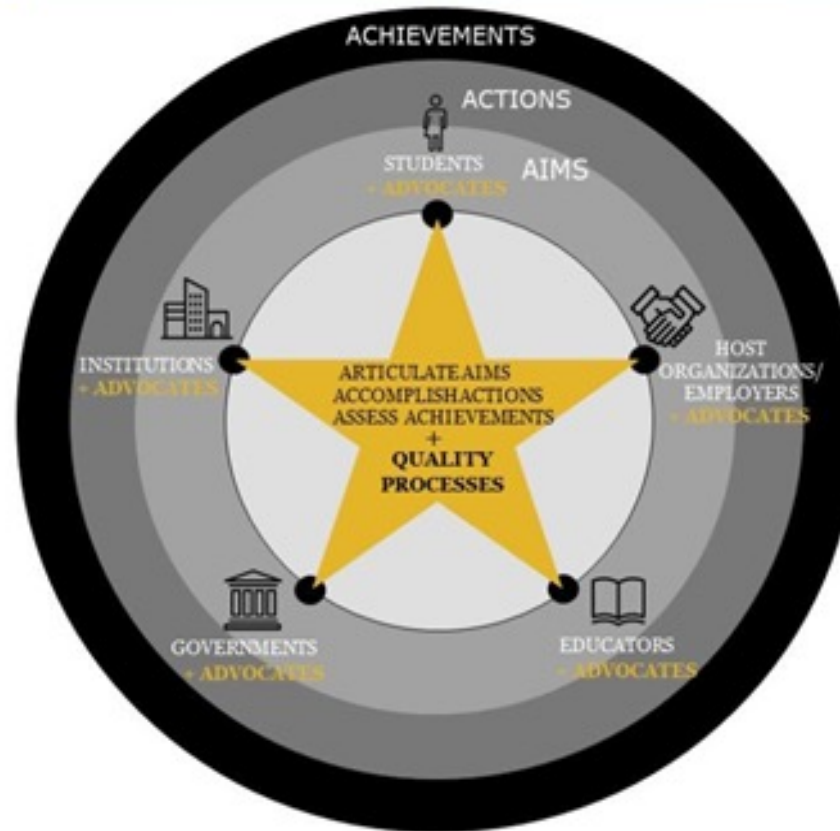
Cooperative Education and Work Integrated learning Canada (CEWIL)



# AAA★WIL Quality Framework



by Norah McRae, T. Judene Pretti and Dana Church, 2020



# About WIL Instruction Research

During COVID 19

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- ❖ 14 Interviews from 12 VCC Programs from 4 schools
- ❖ 1.5 hours to 2 hours for each interview
- ❖ Diverse WIL Activities:
  - ❖ Practicums / Work Experience/ Clinical
  - ❖ 90 hrs to 500 hrs based on the program length
  - ❖ Supported and self-directed WIL Placements
  - ❖ Mandatory for Graduation

# WIL Instruction Research Experience

During COVID 19

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- ❖ Leveraged existing relationships
- ❖ Backyard Researcher
- ❖ Pivoted to Virtual interviews/Focus Group
- ❖ User friendly virtual settings – recording, transcription, breakout rooms
- ❖ Appreciative inquiry approach
- ❖ Relationships strengthened/breaking out of silos
- ❖ A venue for VCC WIL practitioners to meet their counterparts
- ❖ Start of a WIL Community of Practice

# Key Findings

**Pre WIL: WIL preparation embedded in and/or between courses**

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The basics: Cover letter,  
resume, interview

Ethics and professionalism

Clinical/professional practice

Business plan writing

(Real) Case studies,  
scenarios and simulation

Portfolio preparation

Peer review and feedback

Job Skills Day

Field trips

Practicum intake interview

Involving others:

- Learning Centre
- Alumni
- Industry professionals
- PAC members
- Prospective and current hosts

## Key Findings

During WIL: Checking in to reinforce expectations and curriculum

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Site visits with students and employers

Employer evaluations (and debrief with the student)

Assignments (e.g., reflective journals)

Meditation as necessary

Touch back (seminar) sessions

Not all programs created equal: VCC as practicum site;  
resourcing issues

# Key Findings

## After WIL: Debriefing experience and maintaining connections

Student debrief (individual and group) and showcase

Staying in touch with graduating students

Ongoing support for graduating students and alumni

Documented evaluations/feedback from host employers



# Key Findings

## What do VCC WIL Practitioners want?

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- VCC WIL Mission Statement for guidance/consistency
- WIL community of Practice to leverage existing expertise/best practices
- Targeted WIL teaching training/guidance for faculty responsible for WIL / PD opportunities
- Adequate resources for pre-during-post WIL support (dedicated time, staffing)

# What's Next?

## Internal and External

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- ❖ Presentations:
  - ❖ Leader's Forum
  - ❖ Dean's & Director's Table
- ❖ Research Report – for VCC community
- ❖ PDO/CareerLAB – to facilitate VCC WIL CoP
- ❖ Publish research report and present at related conferences

# Questions?

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## WIL Instruction Research

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