COWIL NEWSLETTER

BC Co-op and Work-Integrated Learning (COWIL) Initiative



Welcome!

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the second issue of the BC Co-op and Work-Integrated Learning (COWIL) Initiative newsletter!

This quarterly bulletin aims to keep you informed on the work-integrated learning (WIL) projects currently underway as part of the COWIL Initiative across 25-post-secondary institutions in British Columbia.

In this issue, we highlight the completed Phase I COWIL projects, provide an overview of the newly approved Phase II COWIL Projects and touch on the importance of sustainability for completed projects.

We hope that you will find the newsletter useful to learn more about COWIL projects, connect with other project leaders to discuss best practices and learnings, and collaborate, where possible, to add value to the WIL practitioners' community in BC.

Thank you for your time and attention!

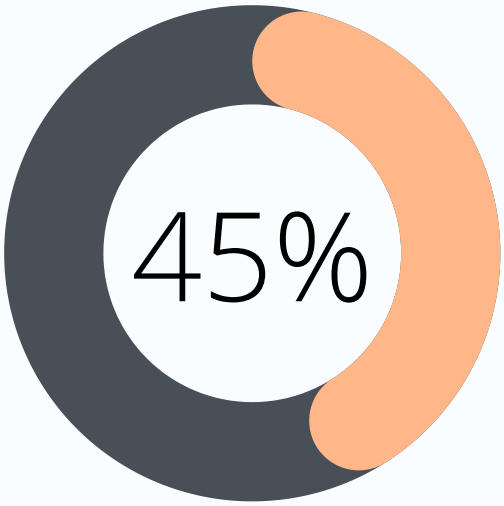
IN THIS ISSUE

PHASE I PROJECTS: COMPLETED & ONGOING

PHASE II PROJECTS: CREATING NEW WIL PLACEMENTS IN BC

FEATURED PROJECT: ACE-WIL RESOURCE HUB

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE COWIL INITIATIVE



of COWIL Projects are complete

Ongoing Projects

The majority of projects will be wrapped up by the end of 2021. Final reports are due to the ministry one month after project funds are expended. The graph below gives an overview of the number of project final reports that will be due by month. By December 2021 most projects will be complete with their final reports due by the end of the next month- in January 2021.

Phase I Projects

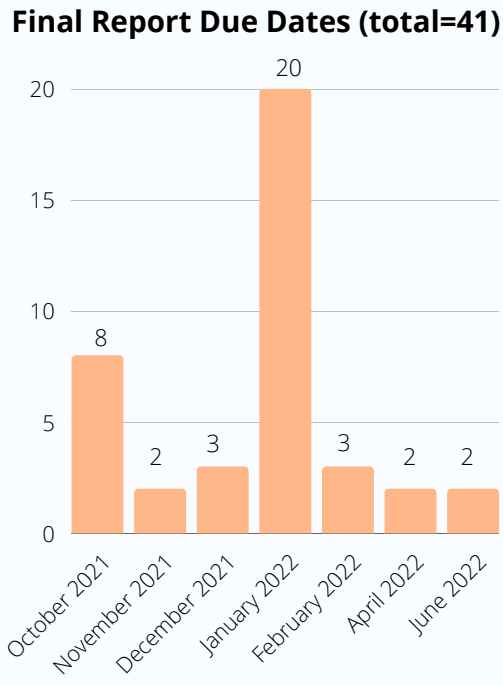
Since the last edition, **6 more** "400-series" COWIL initiative projects were approved for a total of 74 Phase I Projects.

A complete list of Phase I projects can be found here or can be requested via email to COWIL Initiative Project Manager, Hannah Ahluwalia at cowilpm@uvic.ca.

Completed Projects

Out of 74 projects, 33 are complete as of October 2021. Completed project budgets spent so far amounts to $3,131,193.

In November 2021, ACE-WIL will be hosting the second symposium to showcase the outcomes of the completed projects.



COMPLETED PROJECT RESOURCES

- Work-Integrated Learning Technology Survey
- BC WIL Employer & Community Partner Survey
- Employer Toolkit for Hiring Students from International Pathways
- Industry Engagement Toolkit

Phase II Projects

In June 2021, the BC Ministry of Advanced Education (Ministry) announced an additional $5.5 million in funds towards the COWIL Initiative. Proposals were submitted and the Ministry approved 46 projects at 25 different public post-secondary institutions in BC.

46 projects approved

25 post-secondary institutions

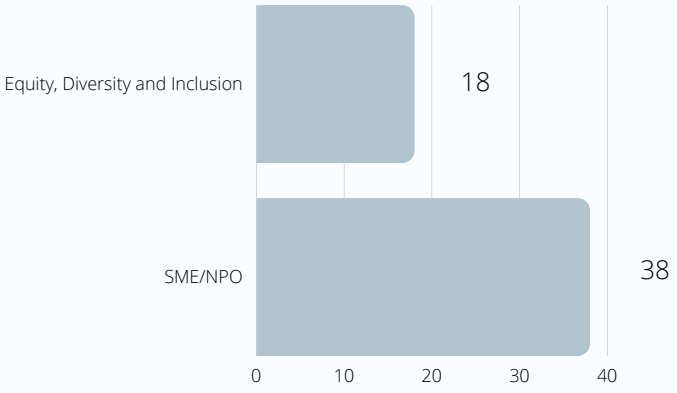
> 3000 WIL Placements

For Phase II, the Ministry put placements as a top priority for approval of funding. Over 3000 WIL placements were estimated in the phase II project proposals.

Themes

Other than creating more WIL Placements for students, Phase II projects focus on a variety of different areas such as equity, diversity and inclusion and small businesses.

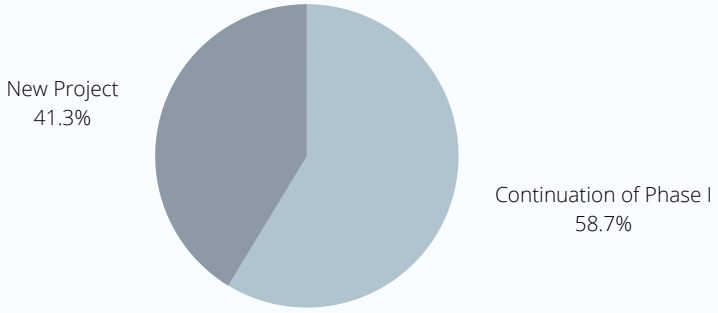
Projects focused on EDI and/or Small and Medium Enterprises(SME)/Non-Profit Organizations (NPO)



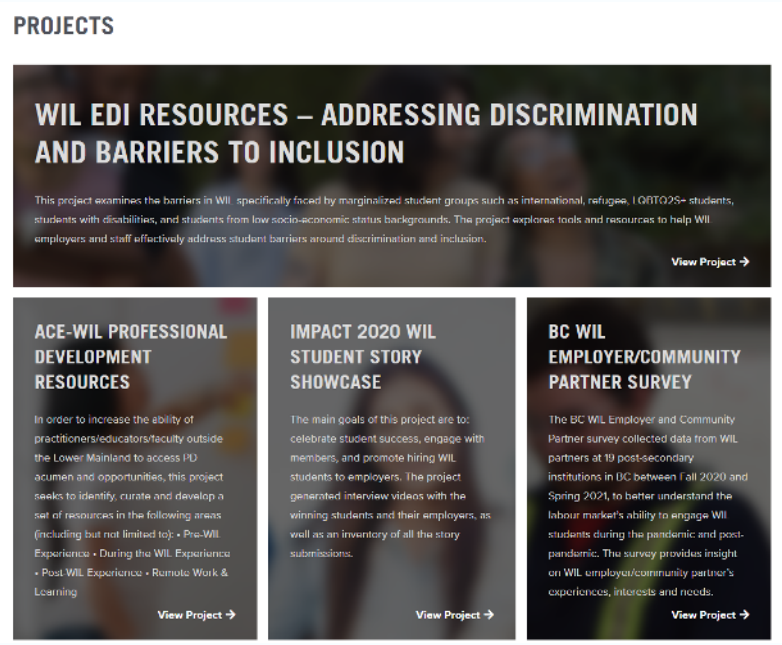
Continuations of Phase I Projects

Many projects are building on work done in Phase I. Out of 46 projects, 27 are a continuing projects or project work done in Phase I.

New Projects vs Projects Continued from Phase I



Read the list of Phase II Projects:
https://acewilbc.ca/resource-library/list-of-phase-ii-projects-budgets-and-contact-info/



Featured projects on the hub

16

Projects have already submitted resources to the hub

ACE-WIL Resource Hub

The Resource Hub is a part of a provincial project funded through the COWIL Initiative. It is a place to share your project outcomes and resources with the wider WIL community. After the COWIL Initiative concludes, it will serve as an infrastructure for ongoing resource sharing.

What's on the hub?

The many resources developed by ACE-WIL volunteers, members and member institutions are available on the hub for you to explore. These include research, tools, videos, professional development and more.

Why is it important to upload resources to the hub?

It is important to ensure that the outcomes of COWIL projects leave a legacy, are openly shared, and contribute to a provincial-wide WIL community of practice.

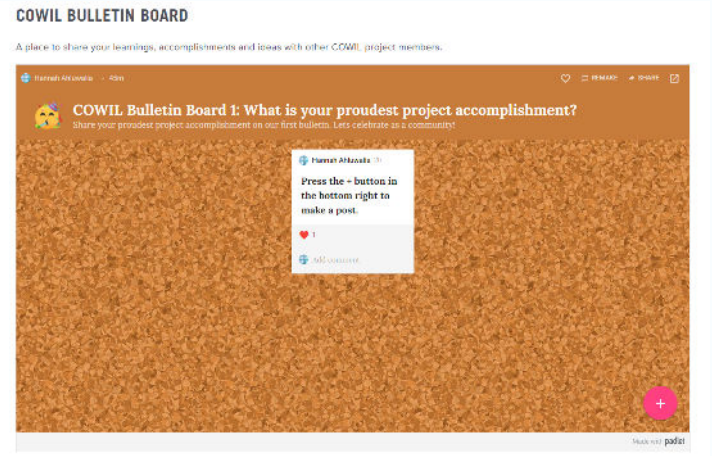
How do I submit a resource and/or project to the hub?

Email Hannah Ahluwalia, COWIL Initiative Project Manager at cowilpm@uvic.ca. for assistance uploading to the hub!



Visit the ACE-WIL Resource Hub:
https://acewilbc.ca/resource-hub/





How to stay connected

Contact the COWIL Initiative Project Manager

Would you like to share something for the future editions of this newsletter? Your project updates, best practices, learnings or challenges? Want to connect with colleagues leading WIL-focused projects across BC post-secondary institutions?

Contact Hannah Ahluwalia, Project Manager, BC Co-Op and Work-Integrated Learning (COWIL) Initiative at cowilpm@uvic.ca.

Post on the COWIL Bulletin Board

As Phase 1 projects wrap-up, it's important to share what we've accomplished and learned.

Visit the COWIL Bulletin Board to answer this issue's question:

"What was your aha! moment or biggest learning through the course of your project?"

Visit the "Support for COWIL Initiative" Project Page

Check out the 'Support for COWIL Initiative Project Page on the ACE-WIL Resource Hub here. It provides a variety of helpful resources such as a list of phase I and phase II projects, reporting requirements, and previous issues of the COWIL Newsletter.

MORE READING

- ACE-WIL Resource Hub
- Support for COWIL Initiative Project Page
- Previous issues of the COWIL Newsletter

