Distributed Learning: New Tools for Health Promotion

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What is DL?

- Is not just DE
- Is not just the web
- Is integrative regarding technologies
- Is centred around human exchanges
- Is principally a collaborative context
Technologies of DL?
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Central to DL?
Contexts for DL?

• Not just higher education
• Workplace learning
• Community-based learning
Workplace DL contexts

• On-the-job, “just-in-time” learning.

  – Improvement of skills, knowledge, attitudes in real-world, real-time contexts.

  – Modular, customizable, self-paced, self-directed, peer-supported, expert resourced.
Community-based DL contexts

- Information
- Education
- Research
- Action
Point of using DL?

• Change or transformation of something…
  – People (knowledge, skills, attitudes)
  – Organizations (practices, processes, policies)
  – Communities (informed engagement & action)

For the purposes of promoting growth, health, and vitality
Implications for PRHPRC?

• Today’s activities…
  – “…establishing the context of how the PRHPRC might contribute to health promotion activities and communities in the future.”
  
  – Implications for both scholarship and practice of health promotion
Implications for PRHPRC?

- Scholarly activities…
  - Planning for effective use of DL technologies and processes
  - Forensic analyses regarding utility for participants and/or communities
  - Role of leadership, collaboration, facilitation
  - Analyses of both products and processes
Implications for PRHPRC?

- Practitioner activities...
  - Use DL and associated technologies to expand the number of communities engaged in the process
  - Encourage the development of information access and knowledge creation skills in local participants and communities.
Discussion?

• How do you see DL being used in the future to realize your research and/or practitioner goals regarding Prairie Regional Health Promotion?

• How do you see DL being used by the communities you study and/or serve for the purposes of health promotion?