

NEWS RELEASE

October 21, 2025 - For Immediate Release

NEW PARTNERSHIP PROVIDES HANDS-ON LEARNING TO STUDENTS

Luther College at the University of Regina is partnering with Co-operative Education and Work-Integrated Learning Canada (CEWIL Canada) to launch a new project called *Research in Action: Students + Communities*. This federally funded program gives undergraduate students real-world experience by doing research that helps local organizations.

Starting this fall, students will take the course *NSLI 240: Community-Based Research in the Nonprofit Sector*. In this class, they'll work with the Disability Income Support Coalition (DISC), a group that advocates for stronger disability supports in Saskatchewan. Students will help design and carry out research that strengthens their advocacy.

Thanks to CEWIL Canada, students will receive financial support to help cover costs, particularly for those from underrepresented groups. The course will also include guest lectures from Indigenous scholars, community advocates, and data professionals, so that students learn how to do research that is inclusive, ethical, and practical.

"Partnerships like this strengthen the bridge between academic learning and real-world impact," said Tom Phenix, President of Luther College. "Our students will gain valuable skills while contributing directly to community-driven advocacy for people with disabilities."

"Work-integrated learning is a turning point for many young people eager to gain hands-on experience in their field of study," said Leslie Church, Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretaries of State for Labour, for Seniors, and for Children and Youth, and to the Minister of Jobs and Families (Persons with Disabilities). "This project, funded in part by the Innovative Work-Integrated Learning Initiative, will help students acquire valuable research skills and apply those skills for the good of their own communities. Thank you to Luther College and CEWIL Canada for leading this impactful collaboration."

Anita Abraham, President of CEWIL Canada, states, "This initiative reflects CEWIL's commitment to expanding access to innovative work-integrated learning experiences. Together with Luther College, we are helping students develop the technical, social, and work-ready skills needed by today's employers and communities."



At the end of the semester, students will present their findings and provide DISC with actionable reports and survey data.

This project builds on Luther College's longstanding leadership in community-engaged learning. Through the Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Studies Network, Luther College aims to strengthen Saskatchewan's nonprofit sector by equipping students with applied skills in research, policy, and advocacy.

ABOUT LUTHER COLLEGE

Luther College, Regina operates a historical independent high school accredited by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education and a post-secondary campus federated with the University of Regina. Our vision is to make transformative change for a more grace-filled, just, and joyful world.

Program Inquiries:

Colleen Strauch

Director of Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Studies Network

Luther College at the University of Regina

colleen.strauch@uregina.ca

Media Inquiries:

Angela Bethune

Director of Communications

Luther College, Regina

angela.bethune@luthercollege.edu