The college presented in this best practice case study is a rural northern college that has a main campus, plus eleven satellite campuses, ranging from 80 km to 280km in distance from the college. The college’s vision is to be the first choice for learners, communities and stakeholders in our region, and a model for rural education. The college offers academic upgrading, first and second year university transfer courses, skill-orientated career programs at the certificate or diploma level in the areas of health, social services, Native culture, business, technical, apprenticeship, vocational training and pre-employment trades. The college uses a small cohort strategy to deliver courses and programming. The strategy incorporates increasing cohort sizes by connecting small groups of learners distributed across our region at satellite campuses through the use of learning technologies.

In order to meet this strategy and provide quality education, we have adopted many different learning technologies, based upon the type of course/program, type of learners, and skills of the instructor. (These learning technologies primarily include but are not limited to Moodle, Elluminate, Video Conferencing, WebCams, and Digital Video and will soon include SmartBoards). The presentation will discuss how our college has used different learning technologies in conjunction to deliver fully online or blended learning courses to meet the needs of our learners dispersed across numerous locations in a large geographic area.