

Connecting the Dots: Reframing OER as Tools for Knowledge Mobilization

[PRESENTATION]

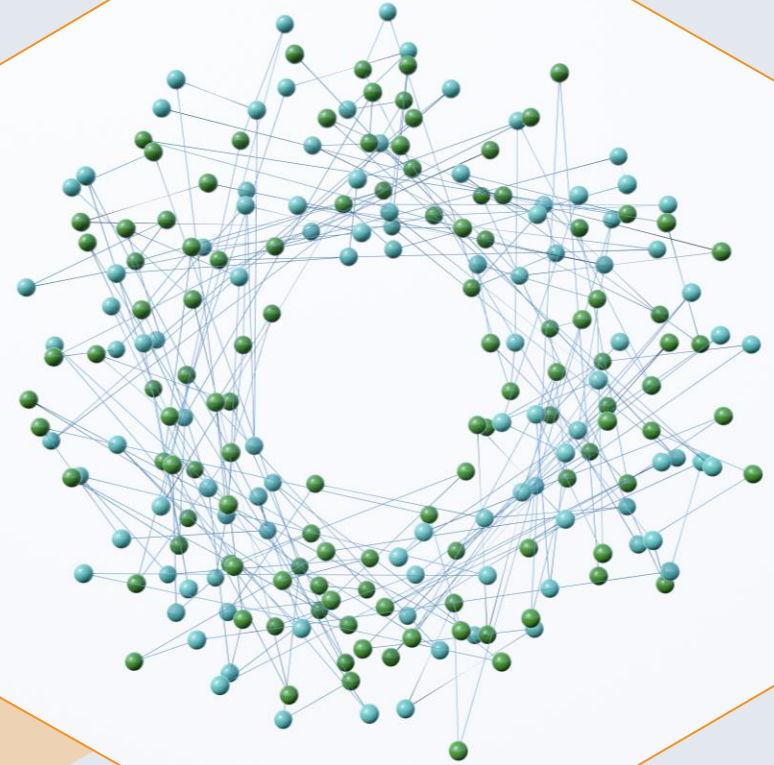
THE SPACE []
BETWEEN

Open Education Conference 2026

Connecting the Dots: Reframing OER as Tools for Knowledge Mobilization

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University of Ottawa



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Knowledge Mobilization (KMb)

“Knowledge mobilization is an umbrella term encompassing a wide range of activities relating to the production and use of research results, including knowledge synthesis, dissemination, transfer, exchange, and co-creation or co-production by researchers and knowledge users.”

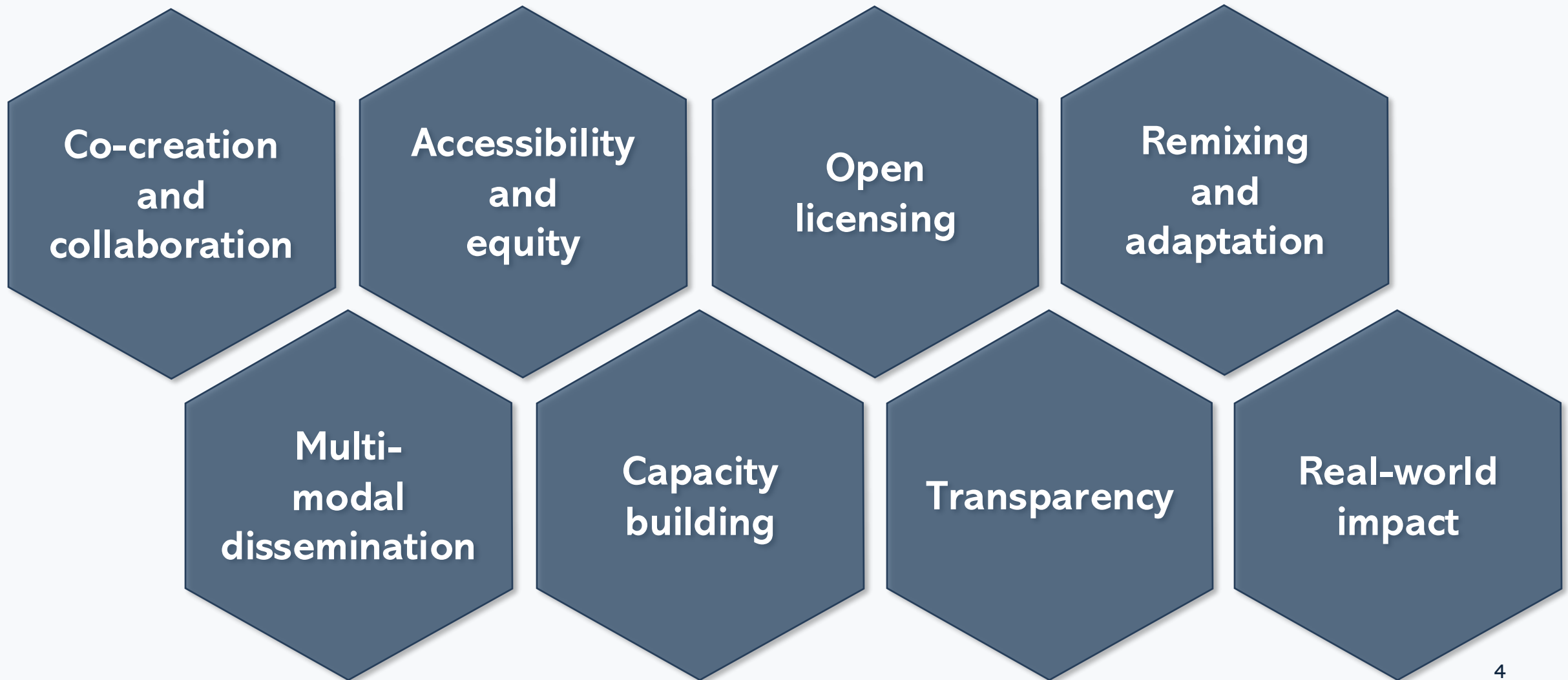
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)

<https://sshrc-crsh.canada.ca/en/funding/policies-regulations-and-guidelines/guidelines-effective-knowledge-mobilization.aspx#2>

Disseminating findings in non-traditional ways



Values and Practices of OE and KMb



Context at the University of Ottawa

Bilingual (English-French) public research university

Member of U15 Canada

Research revenue of \$512M (CAD) in 2025
(half from government sources)

Enrolment (Fall 2025):
42,000 undergraduate students
5,400 master's students
2,300 doctoral students

Released its first KMb institutional strategy in July
2020



What sparked this reflection?

Panel in October 2025 organized by
uOttawa Research and Innovation &
Academic Leadership:

**Mobilizing Knowledge for Impact
Beyond Academia**

Q&A: Would you consider your OER a
form of knowledge mobilization?



Sharing Research Differently: Mobilizing Knowledge with Open Educational Resources (OER) – March 4, 2026

- Bilingual online event organized by uOttawa Research and Innovation & Library
- Presentation of OE(R) and shared practices/values with KMb
- Conversation with 3 OER creators



<https://youtu.be/Vu4J13y5TUQ>



Sharing Research Differently

Key points about co-creation

- ▶ Recognizing participants and their knowledge (ex. honorarium)
 - ▶ Relationality takes time
 - ▶ For relevant and representative content
- ▶ For community ownership and buy-in (as opposed to "resource in a box")
- ▶ "the most challenging but also the most rewarding"

Takeways from KMb perspective

- ▶ Thinking about « education » as broader function
- ▶ Integrating OE(R) in KMb activities
- ▶ Using KMb vocabulary to showcase OE(R) activities

Tenure, Promotion, Funding: Where to look



Collective agreement: Does it contain a section on KMb?

Ex. APUO Section 20.3 (Scholarly Activities) <https://apuo.ca/collective-agreement-2024-2026/>



Institution: Is there an initiative or policy supporting KMb?

Ex. Research and Innovation at uOttawa <https://www.uottawa.ca/research-innovation/knowledge-mobilization>



Funding: Do granting agencies or your institution offer funding for KMb?

Ex. Connection Grants – Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)

<https://sshrc-crsh.canada.ca/en/funding/opportunities/connection-grants.aspx>

Ex. Knowledge Mobilization Grants – uOttawa Research Centres and Institutes

<https://www.uottawa.ca/research-innovation/knowledge-mobilization/grants-uottawa-research-centres-institutes>



Strategic framing of OE(R) contributions using recognized terms and categories:

DOERS OER Contribution Matrix <https://www.doers3.org/tenure-and-promotion.html>

Suggested Actions



Attend KMb events at your institution



Organize a KMb and OE(R) session with your Research and Innovation counterparts



Have some talking points ready to talk about OER beyond teaching and learning



Identify and promote co-created OER in conversations about research impact or community engagement



Thank you



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