

DR

B. Planning Context

1. Environmental Scan Highlights: Key Trends and Issues

See: <http://tinyurl.com/33kcytt>

and

<http://tinyurl.com/2whotgw>

2. Assumptions

In addition to those trends that can be measured and documented in the Environmental Scan, we can also make some assumptions regarding aspects of the environment that are more difficult to quantify and predict (e.g. cultural and societal forces, government policy and funding priorities, technology).

We foresee a post-secondary and college system under pressure. . .

- * Challenged by increasing costs and relatively static or flat revenue growth from government funding and student tuition
- * Struggling to keep up with the speed and impact of technological change
- * Increasing competition amongst provincial institutions (colleges, regional universities and others) and across jurisdictions (including private trainers)

Populated with learners who have evolving needs and expectations. . .

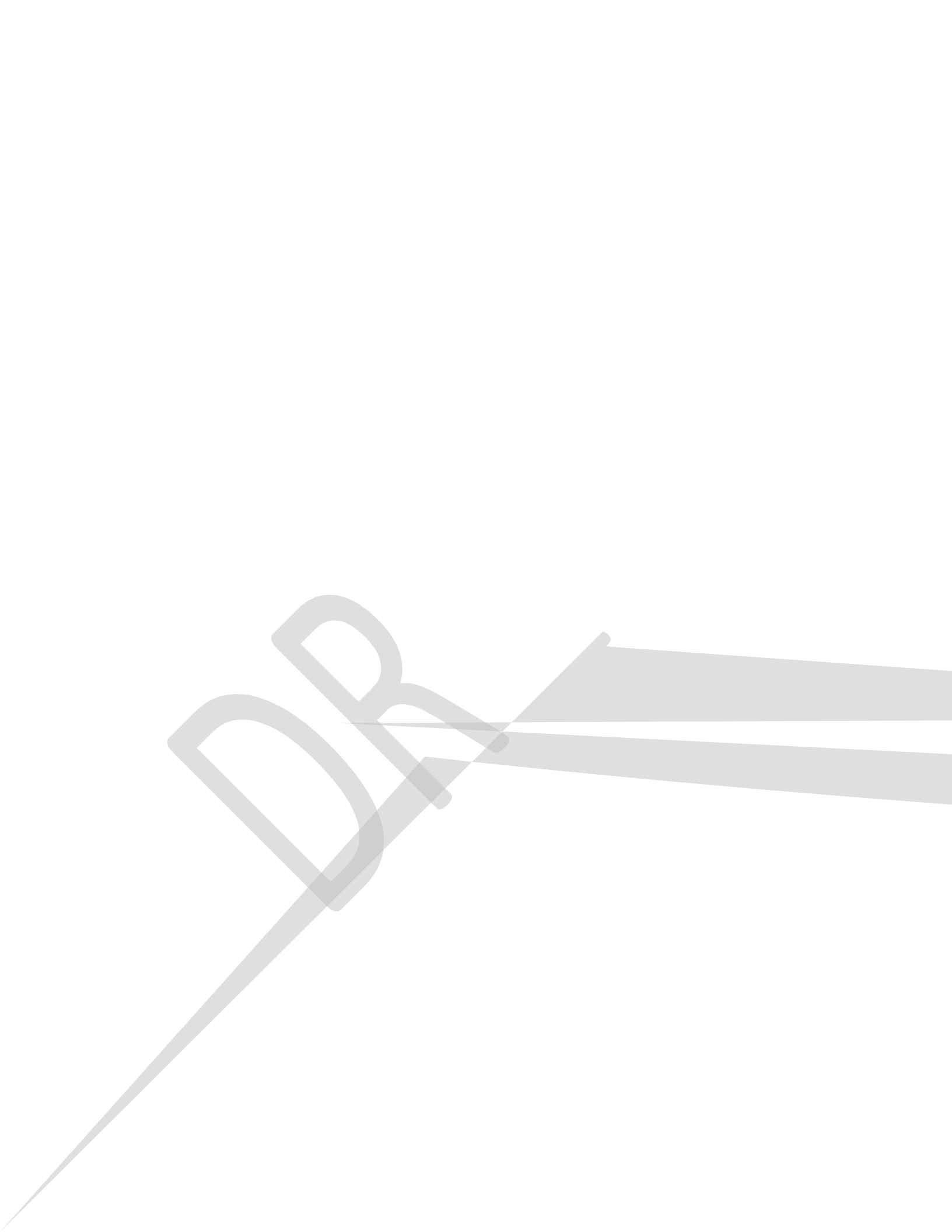
- * Increasingly demanding choice and customization
- * Evaluating opportunities via cost-benefit analyses
- * Demanding greater intra- and inter-institution mobility
- * Requiring support systems for all learners

Faced with new employment and economic conditions . . .

- * Multiple careers in a lifetime
- * Skills shortages in many sectors
- * Need for continuous learning
- * Need for close linkages with industry, business and other employers in a diversified regional economy
- *

Operating within a shifting political climate . . .

- * Need to achieve government objectives within funding limitations (deficits)
- * Continued and increased emphasis on accountability reporting
- * Growing importance of partnerships and collaborations
- * Competing for a fair share of provincial funding for education, health and social services



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E. Mandate

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