

Video-Powered Learning Comes to Canada

IRWA transforms education with international online learning modules

BY DEIDRE ALVES, M.ED.

In April, IRWA completed filming for the international version of IRWA Course 100i, Principles of Land Acquisition, in the new high impact Video Enhanced Integrated Technology (VEIT) online learning format.

VEIT Course 100i (the “i” indicates international) is a pivotal step for the Association. Produced on location in Vancouver, British Columbia, it is IRWA’s first online course developed specifically for an international audience. Course 100i will enable IRWA to integrate country-specific modules with right of way content explicitly targeted to each country’s particular regional laws and practices.

This course is part of IRWA’s Five-Phase Curriculum Design Plan, a strategic effort to bring new leading edge and innovative right of way learning products to IRWA over the next five to seven years.

As an online class with a classroom feel, VEIT Course 100i will be customized for our members and chapters across the globe. Canada is leading the charge and this very ambitious and much needed endeavor will bring right of way basics to a global audience. Plans are already in place to produce—using this Canadian design model—country-specific content modules relevant to South Africa, Mexico, Saudi Arabia and China.

Transforming How IRWA Delivers Content

Tailoring courses for our many Canadian members was our first priority, and the Canadian Right of Way Education Foundation agreed to partially fund the development. The agreement required that the course be produced on Canadian soil with Canadian instructors. With research and support from the International Professional Development Committee, the International Governing Council and International Executive Committee, we received the green light to develop IRWA’s first truly international course.


The development process we used for this course was quite unique. We broke down the course content into the very critical essentials of what right of way professionals must know when working on an international project. It has been streamlined to focus



objectives on two critical areas - the awareness of the vital disciplines involved in right of way projects, and an awareness of a team-centric approach to right of way work. This course represents a transformation in the way IRWA delivers educational content for three reasons:

- 1) **Delivers content across the globe.** It will bring vital and extremely relevant right of way content and ethical standards of practice to our professionals around the world.
- 2) **Enhances skillset and marketability.** It enables right of way professionals to become more knowledgeable and marketable as they learn about the unique practices relative to different countries. This will also ensure our right of way professionals will be ready, educated and more desirable candidates for projects involving international work.
- 3) **Offers just-in-time information.** This specialized information is available to right of way professionals exactly when it’s needed. This is especially important when an international project opportunity arises.

I am personally very excited about this project because it provides unparalleled member value, relevant content, insider knowledge and essential right of way resources, all in a leading-edge format. This also positions IRWA even more squarely as the true central authority of the right of way profession. We strive every day to build a better world together.

IRWA’s VEIT Course 100i is housed on the IRWA University website at www.irwauniversity.org and will be available soon for worldwide release. 



Deidre is IRWA’s Vice President of Professional Development.