Objective

To Create a Computer Lab for Westminster for:

✓ Our Westminster Youth Group
✓ Sunday School Activities (CE)
✓ The Westminster Congregation
✓ Church Events (eg. Summer Camp)
✓ Booking / Rental Opportunities:
  ➢ Homework Club (provincial Funding)
  ➢ Community-Based Events
  ➢ Community Training and Education
  ➢ Other Opportunities
Overview of Computer Lab

- Computer Lab was designed to provide users with full computer usability at a low setup and maintenance cost.

- Computer Lab (in final phases) will have an estimated worth of $20,000.00 but it will only cost an estimated $250.00 to setup and that includes the cost of room renovations.

  Truly, a recycling success story!

- Using the Linux (Ubuntu) operating system and open source software will provide free software for the Computer Lab now and into the future...
Overview of Computer Lab

• Our Computer lab is easy to maintain (eg. Install software, account & process administration, security, task automation, diagnostics, benchmarks, etc...).

• Based on previous installations, this configuration has proven to be dependable over the past 4-5 years...

Parkdale Collegiate Institute, Toronto

Emery Collegiate Institute, Toronto
More about our Computer Lab

• The current Computer Lab configuration should last 5 years at very low cost (eg. electricity usage, fix chairs, etc...)

• Extra computers are reserved in case a workstation (thin client) fails (estimate: 1 CPU per year).

• A backup server and backup routine will ensure minimum disruption. We can just swap (switch) servers if required ...

• This Computer Lab can be sustained indefinitely. Workstations (or “thin clients”) may be donated in future by congregation, or by other organizations.

• In the future, our Computer Lab will be administered by youth members & volunteers, trained by Murray Saul. Great job experience: “looks good on a résumé...”
Evolution of the Computer Lab

Not even an empty room to begin with!
We have to start somewhere...

Testing the original system in the office...
During a fierce snowstorm, picked up donated boardroom table and chairs from Seneca College. Chuck H., Earl W., Don B., Bill E, Murray S...
Volunteer elbow grease!

Getting the floor ready for the carpet from Kellogg's...
Slow and Steady Wins

Special glue used for carpet...
Reuse, Reshape & Recycle

Seneca boardroom tables take on a new life at Westminster as they are Ripped to size with a table saw on a HOT! Summers day. Brian B., Earl W., Murray S.
Making Order Out of Chaos

Working on the tables... Earl W., Murray S...
Cut the Red wire or the Blue One?

A million other little things to do …
(electrical outlets, cabling, testing, etc)...

Earl W., Earl W., Earl W., Earl W...
Getting Closer

Ready to configure the computers ... Finally...
A Window of Opportunity?

Lab with the newer computers... Powerful!
Installing the Server

Just a few more finishing touches...
Are we there yet?

... and ready for use ... Enjoy Westminster!
## Strategic Approaches

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| “On the Fly” | Start using the system, deal with issues as they arise. Teach courses without taking time to design them. | - Saves Time  
- Satisfies the Impatient  
- Less Training | - Creates bad product (bad advertising)  
- Reworking existing Curriculum |
| “Slow-down” | Take time to plan-out how computer system will be used. Carefully access needs of the users (system analysis and design). | - Better products  
- Easy advertising  
- Less mistakes (redo) | - Takes too long  
- More waiting  
- Opportunity Costs |
| “Mixed Mode” | Combination of both methods above. Prioritize what can be done quickly, reserve what should be planned, plan simultaneously while quick “on-the-fly” solutions are being implemented and evaluated. | - Saves Time  
- More Transparent  
- Less mistakes (redo)  
- Provides time for “learning curve” | - Requires more training up-front  
- Remove skilled IT admin to work on planning |
Objectives

Short Term Objectives:

✔ Install the cables to connect to the Internet!
✔ Add the Computer Lab to the AVIT Mission Statement.
✔ Create Acceptable Use Policies.
✔ Design church handout covers in computer lab.
✔ Create homemade videos.
✔ Learn how to use computer lab.
✔ Determine computer user groups / install required software.
✔ Create custom computer accounts based on each groups' needs.
✔ Train admin and instructors how to use Computer Lab.
Objectives

Not-Too-Distant Future Objectives:

- Installation of workstation (thin client) in other rooms:
  - CE Room  (Dual Boot – Linux network & local)
  - Youth Room (Dual Boot – Linux network & local)
  - Other Places?

- Current Computer Lab configuration allows for a total of 15-20 thin clients to connect to single Computer Lab server. Currently, our Computer Lab contains 7 workstations... there is room to grow...
Objectives

Longer Term Objectives:

- **Education**
  - Curriculum Design (A lot of important work! This takes time!)
    - Planning (Needs, Hiring, Costing models)
    - Implementation
    - Evaluation

- **Moving Beyond the “Bricks and Mortar”**
  - Building a Learning Community
    - Learning (IT) Database
    - Blogs, WIKIs
    - LCMS (Learning Content Management System)

- **Total System Integration**
  - Efficiency and Transparency
Group Effort

- The computer lab is very powerful, and can be a tremendous asset to Westminster.

- Based on Murray Saul's experience with these computer labs, the success of the Computer Lab will not be limited by the hardware, or software, but by the participation of Westminster's members!
Group Effort

Just a few things to consider:

- Start **gathering computer lab needs** for various groups (questionnaires, surveys). It is **essential** to communicate via YOUR Facilitator. Groups should separate needs into “**immediate**” and “**wish list**”. Your facilitator will be asked to supply this information to the AVIT facilitator.

- Use **Mind Mapping software** in various meetings to pinpoint needs and desire for applications. Our Computer Lab already comes equipped with **Mind Mapping**, **wordprocessing**, **spreadsheet**, and **slide show** applications.
Group Effort

Lab applications that helped create this show:

**Gimp**  
*Image Manipulation*

**OpenOffice** (*Calc, Impress*)  
*OLE – Object Linking and Embedding*
Why don't you take a peek?
Thanks for Coming :)

[images of a church and an office space]