

# **How CMCC Replaced Acrobat** and Streamlined PDF **Workflows Across Campus**

A smarter, more affordable solution for higher education PDF management





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### **Executive Summary**

Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC), the only English-speaking chiropractic school in Canada, needed to standardize and simplify how departments used PDF software across campus. As Adobe Acrobat's costs continued to rise and licensing became more complex, the IT department sought a solution that would offer the same functionality while addressing accessibility, compliance, and training needs.

Foxit PDF Editor emerged as the clear choice. With a comparable feature set, straightforward licensing, and compatibility with Microsoft 365, Foxit allowed CMCC to scale licenses more broadly while reducing costs. Faculty and staff across academic, administrative, and student service departments embraced the tool with minimal disruption.

#### Key benefits achieved with Foxit PDF Editor:

- Z Broader License Access Increased the number of users with editing access without raising costs
- Accessibility Support Enabled faculty to meet Ontario accessibility requirements (AODA/WCAG)
- Seamless Microsoft Integration Single sign-on and Microsoft 365 compatibility simplified adoption
- Streamlined IT Management Consolidated licenses under IT control and reduced overhead
- 🔀 Cost Efficiency Licensed more users for less than what was previously spent on Adobe Acrobat

With Foxit, CMCC enhanced its digital document workflows, supported accessibility initiatives, and reduced administrative complexity—all while staying within budget.

### About CMCC

Founded in 1945, Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC) is a not-for-profit academic institution based in Ontario. It offers a single, highly specialized program: the Doctor of Chiropractic. With around 800 students and 200–250 employees, CMCC operates as a small to medium-sized institution, providing focused education and clinical training while upholding the highest academic and operational excellence standards.



### The Challenge: Replacing a Fragmented PDF Licensing Model

Before implementing Foxit, CMCC's departments independently purchased their Acrobat Pro licenses. This led to a patchwork of inconsistent plans and little visibility for IT. As Ravi Samlal, IT Manager of Applications and Training, explained, this created budget inefficiencies and confusion about who needed which tools and why.

Once IT centralized software procurement, the team gained a clearer usage view. They found that many users were over-licensed or underutilizing Acrobat's advanced features. Meanwhile, accessibility needs were increasing, especially in academic departments, and licensing constraints made providing the right tools to the right users difficult.

#### CMCC needed a solution that could:

- 🗲 Scale across departments with a minimal cost increase
- Meet AODA/WCAG accessibility requirements for course materials
- Integrate with Microsoft 365 for simplified user access
- 🗲 Deliver a familiar interface to reduce the learning curve
- 🗲 Provide support for document workflows like form filling, page separation, and signing

Foxit PDF Editor met all these needs—without the licensing complexity or overhead of Adobe.

## The Solution: Foxit PDF Editor for Campus-Wide Use

Ravi discovered Foxit at a conference while evaluating alternatives to Adobe Acrobat. The institution tested both Foxit and Nitro, but Foxit's interface, licensing structure, and compatibility with Microsoft environments made it the stronger choice. Nitro's software lacked feature parity then, and Ravi knew adoption would suffer.



### CMCC chose Foxit PDF Editor because it offered the following:

- Affordable Licensing at Scale CMCC was able to license more users without exceeding its Adobe-era budget
- **Microsoft 365 Integration** Foxit worked seamlessly with CMCC's Microsoft environment, enabling single sign-on and consistent user management
- Strong Accessibility Features Academic departments relied on accessibility tools to vet documents for compliance, a key requirement for the institution
- **User-Friendly Interface -** A ribbon-style UI familiar to Microsoft Office users eased the transition
  - **Cross-Platform Support** Consistent experience on both Mac and Windows helped serve all departments

Deployment was straightforward. Ravi's team used group policy to install and set Foxit as the default PDF application. Once configured, the software required little IT intervention.

### Results: Expanded Access, Lower Costs, and Simpler Management

Since implementing Foxit, CMCC has increased PDF editing access for faculty and staff, reduced overall costs, and simplified user onboarding. Where only ~50 users once had Acrobat Pro, now 100 people have full access to PDF editing tools and many more use Foxit Reader.



"Foxit allowed us to license more users for less—and gave them the tools they needed to do their work. For us, that's a win."

Ravi Samlal, IT Manager of Applications and Training, CMCC

### Conclusion: A Scalable, Affordable Solution for Higher Education

For CMCC, Foxit delivered more than just cost savings. It solved a long-standing licensing challenge, supported accessibility efforts, and gave the IT department better control and visibility into application usage. Most importantly, it helped faculty and staff work more efficiently without the friction of legacy software.

As higher education institutions face increased pressure to manage costs and modernize operations, CMCC's experience demonstrates how Foxit can be a reliable, affordable, and forward-looking solution.



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