

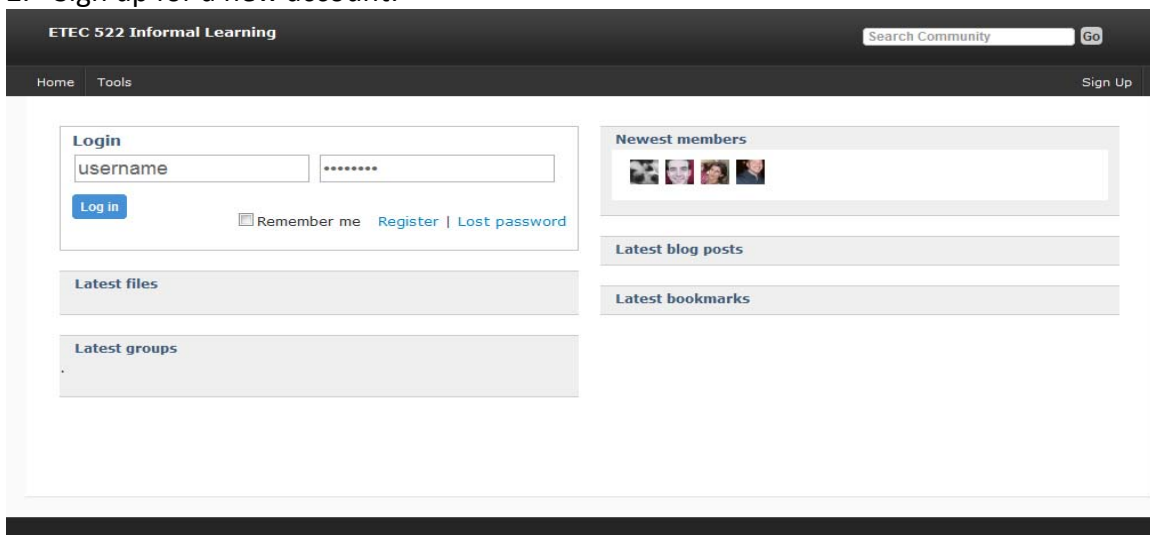
Join the ELGG community and start building your own networked Personal Learning Environment.

****Software Requirements:** [Google Chrome](#) or the latest version of [Firefox](#)***

For this section, we ask you to join our Elgg ETEC 522 Informal Learning Community. Here are some instructions to get you started. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at kenbuis@gmail.com.

Join us inside:

1. Go to the following website: <http://ferviddesigns.com/kenbuis/522/elgg/>
2. Sign up for a new account:

The screenshot shows the homepage of the 'ETEC 522 Informal Learning' Elgg community. The header is dark grey with the site name on the left, a search bar with a 'Go' button in the center, and 'Home' and 'Tools' links on the right. Below the header, there's a 'Sign Up' link. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains a 'Login' section with fields for 'username' and a password (masked with dots), a 'Log in' button, and links for 'Remember me', 'Register', and 'Lost password'. Below the login section are sections for 'Latest files' and 'Latest groups'. The right column contains sections for 'Newest members' (showing four profile pictures), 'Latest blog posts', and 'Latest bookmarks'.

3. Follow the steps to set up a username and password:

ETEC 522 Informal Learning

Search Community

Home Tools

Sign Up

Register

Display name

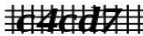
Email address

Username

Password

Password (again for verification)

Enter text from image



Register

4. Confirm the account in your email.
5. Log in and update your profile:
 - i) Edit your profile by filling in the content

ETEC 522 Informal Learning

Home Tools

Settings Administration Log out

Ken Buis

Bookmark this

Report this

Edit details

Edit profile icon

Edit profile

About me

Embed / upload media

B

I

U

ABC

HTML

I am a Digital Media Arts 11 & 12 teacher with the Vancouver School Board. My teaching practice has grown incredibly with the transition into mixed-mode courses, and to provide some theoretical guidance I started the MET program at UBC in January 2009.

It has been a mind-expanding experience and I am thrilled to be able to participate in it. Teaching and learning has changed so dramatically that I am happy to find a Masters Degree that develops along with this transition.

I also have been designing websites professionally for 14 years and work with companies from all Path:

Logged in users

Add/Remove editor

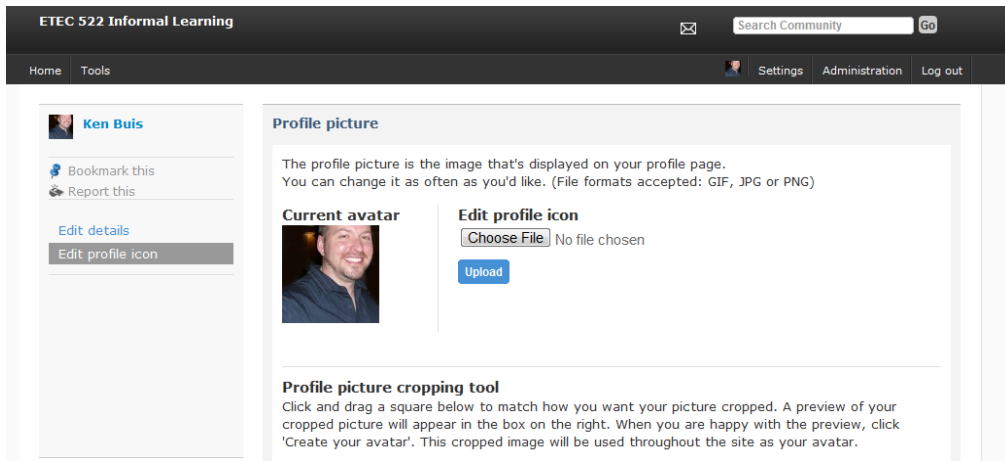
Brief description

Logged in users

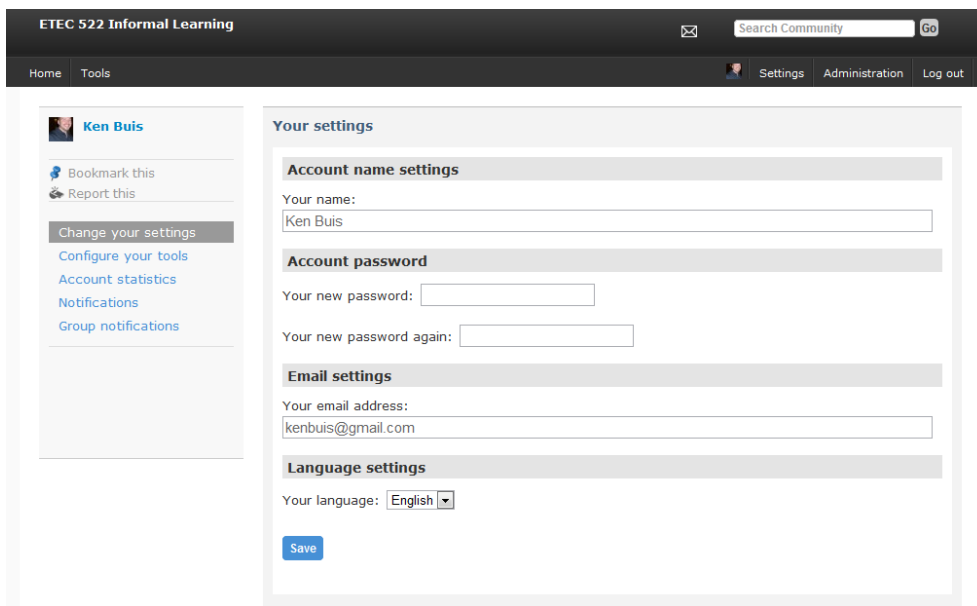
Location

vancouver, bc

- ii) select an icon for your page and upload it

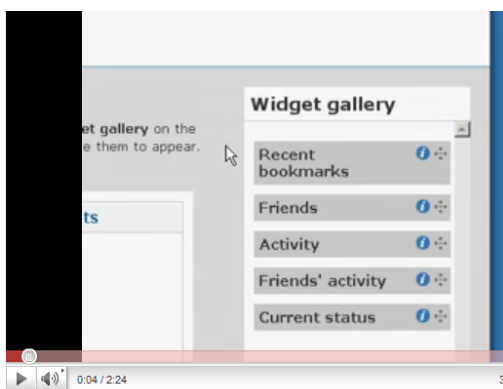


- iii) You can access your account settings at any time by clicking on the “settings” menu item at the top right of your screen. This will allow you to access your account password, email and more.



- iv) The tools menu allows you to add elements to your page, but before you do that, it is best to set up your page with the various plugins available. See mine below:

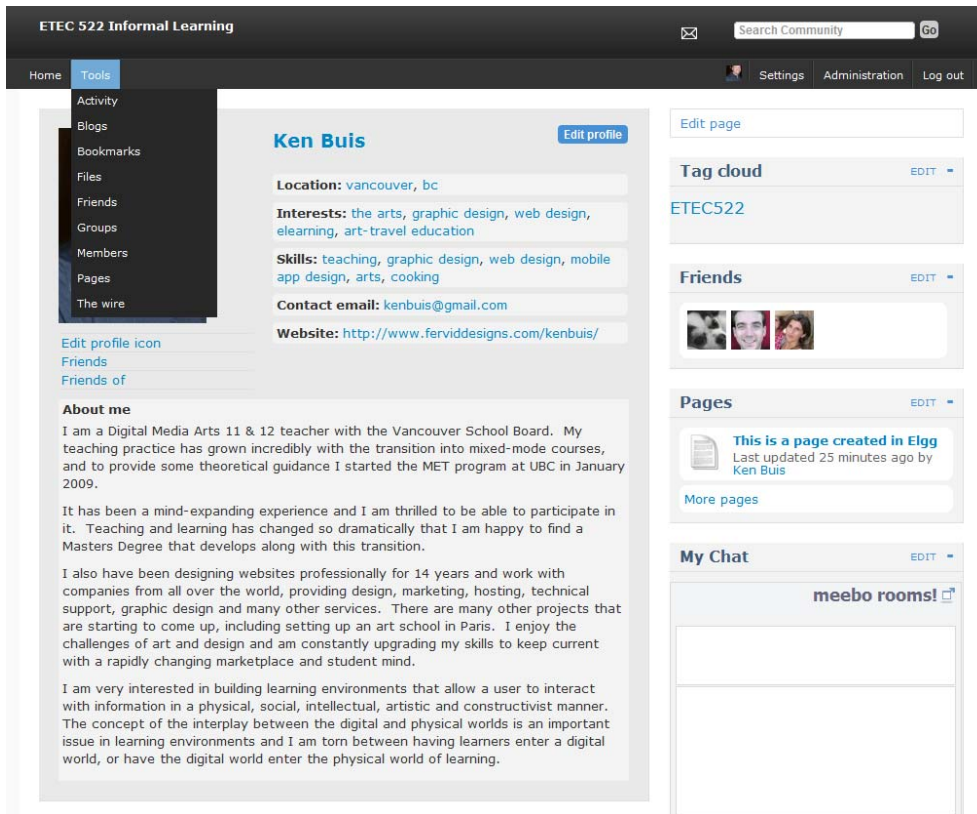
By clicking on the “Edit Page” link at the top of your personal page, you can add in any plugin that you may want. So I have included my twitter feed, a group feed, friends, chat and more. To add plugins, all that needs to be done is to drag and drop the plugins into the section of the page you wish to utilize them.



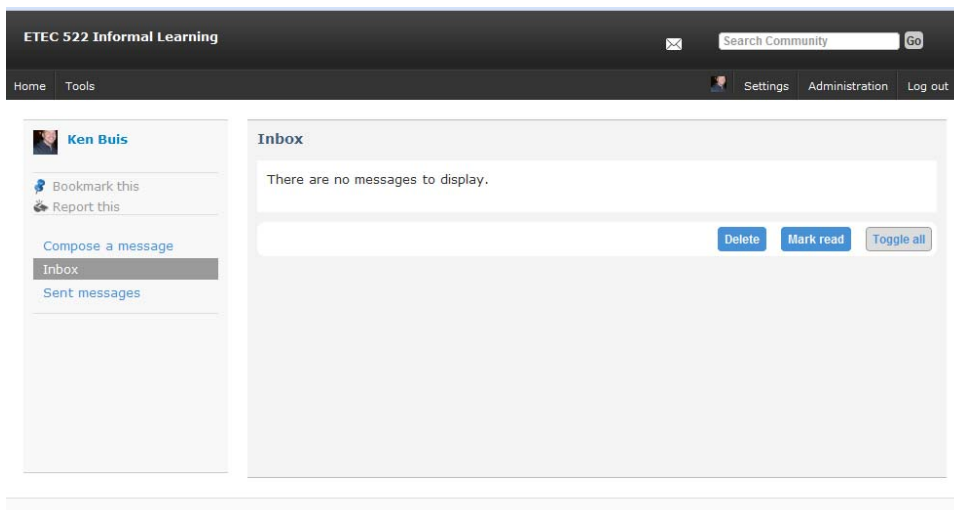
Visit http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rHLNm_OBigI if you wish to see a live demonstration.

- Each plugin you install in your page can be adjusted by using the “edit” button at the top right of each box.

- v) Once your page is set up, you are able to access the tools menu to set up additional elements, such as blog posts, pages, links and more:



Elgg also enables direct messages to be sent, simply by clicking on the envelop beside the “Search Community” box at the top right:



You can also put in your existing tools, like twitter:

The screenshot shows the Elgg user interface for 'ETEC 522 Informal Learning'. The top navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Tools', 'Settings', 'Administration', and 'Log out'. A search bar is also present. The left sidebar shows the user profile 'Ken Buis' with links for 'Bookmark this', 'Report this', 'Change your settings', 'Configure your tools' (which is highlighted), 'Account statistics', 'Notifications', and 'Group notifications'. The main content area is titled 'Tools' and contains a description: 'This panel allows you to control and configure the personal settings for the tools installed by your system administrator.' Below this is a section for 'Twitter Service' with input fields for 'Twitter username' and 'Twitter password'. A message states: 'By setting the following option all messages you post to The Wire will be sent to your twitter account. Do you want to post your messages from The Wire to Twitter?' with a dropdown menu currently set to 'No'. A 'Save' button is at the bottom.

This allows you to post your blogs, put in live feeds from twitter and other services, as well as collect all your PLE tools in one networked, social place.

Best of all, Elgg is open source and continuously built upon by developers in the Elgg community. Elgg is a great idea and a fun way to collect all the informal learning tools in one place.

See you inside!