

Call for Partners in Talent and Workforce Development

Talent + Capacity Program
April, 2022



Table of Contents

Call for Partners in Talent and Workforce Development	3
Call for Partners	4
Partner Roles	4
Eligibility and Parameters	4
Industry and Competency Focus	5
Next Steps	5

Call for Partners in Talent and Workforce Development

We are in the midst of generational changes in the way we live, work and play. Some jobs are disappearing, new jobs are emerging and many jobs are evolving to become digital and green. Roughly 10 million Canadians will do completely different jobs by 2030.

Whether it is the transition to a clean energy system, adaptation to the changes driven by climate change, the emergence of Web3 or the move to the hybrid work environment, there are a number of forces redefining talent and the workforce.

This is a transformation of the workforce requiring not only innovative new ways of developing talent and the workforce, but a surge in learning and development capacity across the country. We recognized this need when we formed the Digital Supercluster and made talent and workforce development a strategic priority. In our first Phase of investment, we leveraged \$12.7M to create a \$40M+ portfolio of talent projects which, combined, will create accessible skilling and employment opportunities for more than 6500 Canadians. Our projects are active across the country from Halifax to Vancouver to the Northwest Territories and in collaboration with Indigenous communities. [Learn more about our current projects.](#)

Now, we're planning Phase II. We have a pipeline of new opportunities and are looking to add new partners interested in growing the talent and workforce development ecosystem across the country with a particular emphasis on rapid skilling systems that reduce the time and cost to get Canadians job ready and enable greater workforce productivity, mobility and inclusivity.

Our current focus is on developing **Pathways to Digital Jobs**: building accessible opportunities for workers to develop the digital skills they need to succeed, from foundational competencies to job-specific specializations to lifelong learning.

To that end, we are pleased to extend an invitation to join this **Call for Partners**. We know there is a robust ecosystem of strong, passionate skilling partners within and beyond the Digital Supercluster community. We want to connect with those organizations in a targeted way for both current and future skilling opportunities.

Call for Partners

We are looking for key partners that are aligned with the mission of building **Pathways to Digital Jobs** and have the capacity, expertise and passion to help create a robust, adaptable, world-class skilling ecosystem. Complete a simple [Expression of Interest](#) form to help us understand your capabilities and interests as a potential partner.

Partner Roles

We are looking for skilling partners interested in participating in one of the following roles:

- **Lead:** Interested in delivering training program(s) to develop competencies for targeted learner communities. Leads can be any type of organization with the capacity and interest to deliver learning programs. Leads may have existing training offerings or are able and willing to collaborate with other existing training providers.
- **Specialist:** Specialists have unique expertise, tools, resources or curriculum to contribute to a learning project. Specialists may be, for example, EdTech organizations offering AI-based skills assessments, not-for-profit organizations with expertise on the needs and preferences of specific learner demographics, or organizations with curriculum or credentials that they're hoping to be delivered or scaled, but who are not interested in being a Lead.
- **Industry:** Industry partners are private companies that are interested in solving skilling and workforce challenges, either in their organization, their community, their sector, or beyond. Industry partners may be looking to solve a specific talent challenge within their organization (i.e. a shortage of workers with a specific competency-set, or a desire to enhance their Learning and Development program), and/or they may be aligned more broadly with the long-term vision and importance of digital workforce development through an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion lens. Industry partners can be any size and from any industry.

Eligibility and Parameters

- Organizations must be operating in Canada
- Organizations must be willing to collaborate

- Organizations must be willing to [join the Supercluster](#) as an Associate or a Member
- Organizations must have the capacity to deliver on their chosen role when the time comes

Industry and Competency Focus

We're looking for partners from across all industries with a focus on digital technology, innovation, workforce development, and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

Partners will be interested in developing, accessing, or training one or more of the following competency areas:

- **Data Intelligence:** This could include competencies in artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML) and data science from entry-level to leadership.
- **Infrastructure and Security:** These competencies include cloud computing, cybersecurity and connectivity management.
- **Product Management:** Product management competencies enable people and teams to deliver innovative products. Competencies could include product development, R&D portfolio strategy and cross-functional business management.
- **Digital Creative:** The content engine of the digital space, digital creative competencies could include virtual production, VR/AR, interactive services or game development.
- **Digital Commerce:** Digital commerce competencies could include those related to blockchain, digital finance, open banking and digital identity.

Next Steps

Please submit your [Expression of Interest](#) form (one per organization) by one of the following due dates. The April date is for near term opportunities in the first half of 2022 and the May date is for follow-on opportunities in the second half of 2022.

- **Midnight (PST), April 27, 2022**

- **Midnight (PST), May 18, 2022**

We will review submissions for strategic alignment with different opportunities and follow-up over the course of the next 30 to 60 days.

If you have any questions, please connect with Sydney Goodfellow:
sgoodfellow@digitalsupercluster.ca. We look forward to hearing from you.