An AI Strategy for the Federal Public Service

Purpose

The Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat is developing an AI Strategy for the federal public service to ensure that AI adoption is accelerated responsibly, inclusively, and safely.

Vision

Responsible adoption of AI empowers the Government of Canada to deliver world-class services, achieve a more innovative and efficient workplace, protect its interests, and accelerate scientific discovery for the benefit of all.

Scope

All AI technologies, at any stage of the AI lifecycle, that are developed or procured for use by any GC department for internal or external purposes.

AI Strategy tenets

Human centred: We focus on the needs of our clients and public servants in deciding where we adopt AI and how we integrate it into our work.

Collaborative: We work together on AI adoption with the public, stakeholders, Indigenous partners, other Canadian and international jurisdictions, and our GC colleagues.

Ready: We have the infrastructure, tools, culture, talent, skills and policy we need for responsible, safe, secure, and successful AI adoption.

Responsible: GC clients and public servants know when and how we use AI and can trust that our use of AI respects privacy and is responsible, ethical, fair, safe, and secure.

AI Strategy Deliverables

AI Centre of Expertise: GC-wide AI adoption is supported by providing project guidance, helping to identify use cases, supporting procurement and review processes, and sharing best practice, experience, knowledge and code.

Change Management: Develop a common governance framework for the AI lifecycle scaled to system risks and based on international norms and identify and address policy and legislative gaps and barriers to AI adoption.

Talent and training: Benchmark current workforce talent needs and develop plans to meet needs through training of existing personnel and recruitment and retention of specialist talent.

Engage and Build Trust: Clarify who is accountable for AI use and how to notify users about AI use and their rights, publish a register of AI use cases, and engage the public on AI use.

Consultations

From May to October 2024, the GC held in-person and online consultations to engage the public, federal public servants, and stakeholders from research, industry, civil society, bargaining agents, and Indigenous organizations on the Strategy's proposed areas of focus. Their feedback has helped shape the Strategy.

Next Steps

January 2025: Publication of GC AI Strategy Consultations What We Heard report
Spring 2025: Publication of GC AI Strategy