

Canada sets out a C\$2bn Sovereign AI Compute Strategy; Cohere gets up to C\$240m

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Source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/12/canada-to-drive-billions-in-investments-to-build-domestic-ai-compute-capacity-at-home.html>

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Menu

Main Menu. Press the SPACEBAR to expand or the escape key to collapse this menu. Use the Up and Down arrow keys to choose a submenu item. Press the Enter or Right arrow key to expand it, or the Left arrow or Escape key to collapse it. Use the Up and Down arrow keys to choose an item on that level and the Enter key to access it.

Main Menu * Jobs and the workplace * Jobs: home

* Job Bank * Government of Canada jobs * Youth and student employment * Jobs in national security and defence * Moving within Canada to work * Funding for jobs and training * Training * Hiring and managing employees * Starting a business * Employment Insurance benefits and leave * Workplace standards * Pensions and retirement

* Most requested * Work in Canada - work permits * Immigrate as a skilled worker * Hire a temporary foreign worker * Federal Skilled Worker Program * View your records of employment * Submit a record of employment - employers * Federal Student Work Experience Program (FSWEP) * Apply for a Social Insurance Number (SIN)

* Immigration and citizenship * Immigration and citizenship: home

* IRCC applications * Visit Canada * Live in Canada permanently * Work in Canada temporarily * Study in Canada * Refugees and asylum * International Experience Canada (IEC) * Passports and other travel documents * Citizenship * Permanent resident (PR) cards and status * Settling in Canada as a newcomer * International adoption * Explore immigration programs * Immigration fraud and scams * Inadmissibility, enforcement and appeals

* Most requested * Sign in to your IRCC account * Check your application status * Current processing times * Find an application form * Portals for representatives and partners

* Travel and tourism * Travel and tourism: home

* Travel advice and advisories * Travel outside Canada * Air travel * Canadian passports and travel documents * Stay connected * Assistance outside Canada * Visit Canada * Return or travel to Canada * Canadian attractions, events and experiences

* Most requested * Emergency assistance abroad * Find out if you need a visa to travel to Canada * Apply for an eTA * Apply for NEXUS * Register as a Canadian abroad * Travel insurance

* Business and industry * Business and industry: home

* Starting a business * Business taxes * Business financing and support * Federal corporations * Maintaining your business * Permits, licences and regulations * Hiring and managing employees * International trade and investment * Intellectual property and copyright * Research and business intelligence * Doing business with government * R&D and innovation * Protecting your business * Insolvency for business

* Most requested * Canada's response to U.S. tariffs on Canadian goods * Find a corporation * File Corporations Canada annual return * My Business Account (Canada Revenue Agency) * Helping small businesses get loans * Loans to improve cash flow and increase sales

* Benefits * Benefits: home

* Employment Insurance benefits and leave * Canada Groceries and Essentials Benefit (CGEB) * Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) * Disability benefits * Family and caregiving benefits * Public pensions * Grants and funding opportunities * Student aid and education planning * Housing benefits * Find benefits and financial support * Benefits by audience * What to do when someone dies

* Most requested * Apply for Employment Insurance (EI) * Benefit payment dates * Child and family benefits calculators * Sign in to an account * Set up or change direct deposit * Submit your EI report * Personal income tax - claim deductions, credits and expenses

* Health * Health: home

* Food and nutrition * Drug and health products * Vaccines and immunization * Diseases and conditions * Health system and services * Product safety * Healthy living * Health risks and safety * Health science, research and data * Indigenous health

* Most requested * Canadian Dental Care Plan * Recalls and safety alerts * Canada's food guide * Autism

* Taxes * Taxes: home

* Income tax * Payments * Tax credits and benefits for individuals * GST/HST * Payroll * Business number * Charities and giving * Savings and pension plans * Excise and specialty taxes * Scams and fraud * Support in difficult situations * Compliance and enforcement * CRA Service feedback

* Most requested * CRA sign in * Ready to file your GST/HST return * Find benefit payment dates * Forms and publications * Make a payment to the CRA

* Environment and natural resources * Environment and natural resources: home

* Weather and hazards * Climate change * Energy * Natural resources * Agricultural production tools and data * Environment and sustainability in agriculture * Fisheries * Wildlife, plants and species * Pollution and waste management * Environmental conservation and protection * Environment statistics * Water and the environment

* Most requested * Local weather forecast * Fuel-efficient vehicles * Home energy efficiency * Prepare for severe weather * Download WeatherCAN

* National security and defence * National security and defence Defence: home

* National security * Canadian Armed Forces * Jobs in national security and defence * Services and benefits * Cyber security * Defence equipment purchases and upgrades * Protecting the Canadian border * Transportation security

* Most requested * Jobs in the Forces * Canadian military support to Ukraine * Military ranks * Defence equipment * Canada's Defence policy * Join the Cadet Program

* Culture, history and sport * Culture, history and sport: home

* Funding - Culture, history and sport * Events, celebrations and commemorations * Cultural landmarks and attractions * Canadian identity and society * Sport * History and heritage * Arts and media * Youth leadership and cultural program * Cultural trade and investment

* Most requested * Visit the Canadian Virtual War Memorial * Anthems and symbols of Canada * Find a CRTC decision * Research your family history * Search census records * Major events in Canada's Capital Region

- * Policing, justice and emergencies * Policing, justice and emergencies: home
- * Policing * Justice * Emergencies * Corrections * Parole, record suspension, expungement and clemency * Victims of crime * Crime and justice statistics
- * Most requested * Wildfire Response * Apply/Renew a firearms licence * Get a criminal records check * Apply for a criminal record suspension * What to do during an emergency * Know the law on impaired driving * Help solve a crime
- * Transport and infrastructure * Transport and infrastructure: home
- * Zero-emission vehicles * Aviation * Marine transportation * Road transportation * Rail transportation * Dangerous goods * Infrastructure
- * Most requested * Drone safety * What not to bring on a plane * Register your vessel * Child car seat safety * Transporting dangerous goods - Regulations * Canadian Aviation Regulations
- * Canada and the world * Canada and the world: home
- * International offices and emergency contacts * Study, work and travel worldwide * Information by country and territory * Stories * Canada's foreign policy and international relations * Global issues and international assistance * Canadian funding for international initiatives * International trade and investment
- * Most requested * International education and scholarships * Contact an embassy or consulate * Sanctions * Authenticate a document * International treaties signed by Canada * Project Browser * Contact a foreign representative in Canada * Canada-United States trade: federal supports
- * Money and finances * Money and finances Finance: home
- * Managing your money * Consumer affairs * Debt and borrowing * Education funding * Pensions and retirement * Financial tools and calculators * Savings and investments * Taxes * Financial literacy programs * Business financing and support * Protection from frauds and scams * Financial and money services regulation * Insolvency
- * Most requested * Canada's response to U.S. tariffs * Housing * Student loans * Credit report and scores * Mortgages * Make a budget * Set up or change direct deposit * Find a bankruptcy or insolvency record
- * Science and innovation * Science and innovation: home
- * Research funding and awards * R&D and innovation * Science subjects * Health emergency readiness * Research institutes and facilities * Open data, statistics and archives * Science education resources * Intellectual property and copyright * Directory of scientists and research professionals * Our environment * Federal Open Science Repository of Canada
- * Most requested * Grants for technological innovation (IRAP) * National building codes * Federal Science Libraries Network * Check sunrise and sunset times * Official times across Canada * Live view of northern lights cam
- * Manage life events * Manage life events: home
- * Welcoming a child * Learn and plan for your retirement * What to do when someone dies
- * Most requested * Sign in to a Government of Canada account * CPP payment amounts * Benefits payments dates * Canada child benefit * Canadian Retirement Income Calculator * Prepare tax returns for someone who died * Get a birth certificate * Apply for a SIN

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Canada to drive billions in investments to build domestic AI compute capacity at home

From: Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada

News release

Strategy will invest in cutting-edge AI infrastructure and supercharge innovation to strengthen Canada's AI advantage

Strategy will invest in cutting-edge AI infrastructure and supercharge innovation to strengthen Canada's AI advantage

December 5, 2024 – Ottawa, Ontario

Compute is the technology that powers artificial intelligence(AI). It's the chips and the data centres, the backbone of this transformative new technology. Access to cutting-edge compute infrastructure is crucial for securing Canada's AI advantage, empowering researchers and industries to thrive.

Today, the Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, officially launched the Canadian Sovereign AI Compute Strategy. The Strategy will invest up to \$2 billion, as previously announced in Budget 2024, to meet three key objectives:

1. Up to \$700 million to grow Canadian AI champions by leveraging investments in new or expanded data centres through the AI Compute Challenge that is launching today 2. Up to \$1 billion to build transformational public computing infrastructure 3. Up to \$300 million to provide affordable access to compute power for small and medium-sized enterprises(SMEs) through the AI Compute Access Fund

This strategy will ensure that Canadian businesses, innovators and researchers have access to the compute capacity they need to develop made-in-Canada AI products and drive frontier research.

Developing cutting-edge AI solutions across all sectors of our economy helps Canada remain a destination of choice for investment and top talent. That's why Canada is committed to building a strong and secure AI compute capacity to fuel the economy of the future.

Quotes

> "The strategy we're announcing today is a major step toward securing Canada's place as a global AI leader. We're proud to be a driving force in the worldwide ecosystem, and by increasing access to domestic and secure compute capacity, we will help businesses, innovators and researchers boost the Canadian economy and stand out on the world stage. This is about Canada showing its ambition, supporting Canadian innovation and investing in the economy of the future." > – The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry

Quick facts

* The public consultations on the Canadian Sovereign AI Compute Strategy ran over the summer of 2024 and received input from more than 1,000 stakeholders from research, industry and civil society through in-person and virtual round table discussions and an online survey.

* The Government of Canada is supporting the responsible development and adoption of AI across the Canadian economy through a suite of measures—including the Canadian Artificial Intelligence Safety Institute, the Artificial Intelligence and Data Act (Bill C-27) and the Voluntary Code of Conduct on the Responsible Development and Management of Advanced Generative AI Systems.

* The Government of Canada is allocating the full \$2 billion from Budget 2024 through a strategy that will meet the short-term, medium-term and long-term compute needs of our AI researchers, developers and innovators:

* Up to \$700 million will support projects from industry, academia and the private sector to build Canadian AI data centres. There will be an application process for these funds, with priority given to Canadian projects that can demonstrate a high rate of return on public investment, sustainability and other markers of success. * Up to \$1 billion will be allocated to building large sovereign supercomputing infrastructure as well as a smaller secure

computing facility. * Up to \$300 million will go to the AI Compute Access Fund to support the purchase of AI compute resources by Canadian innovators, businesses and industry. This will meet the near-term needs of business as the government helps crowd in private capital to build domestic compute capacity. More details on the Fund will be shared when the program is officially launched in spring 2025.

* Canada's AI sector is a key job creator and driver of productivity, innovation and economic growth:

* In 2022–23, there were over 140,000 actively engaged AI professionals in Canada, an increase of 29% compared to the previous year. * Canada has 10% of the world's top-tier AI researchers, the second-highest number in the world. * Canada ranks first globally for year-over-year growth of women in AI (67% growth in 2022–23 alone), first in the G7 for year-over-year growth of AI talent and, since 2019, first in the G7 for the number of AI-related papers published per capita. * The number of AI patents filed by Canadian inventors increased by 57% in 2022–23 compared to the previous year—nearly three times the G7 average of just 23% over the same period. * In 2022, the Canadian AI sector attracted over \$8.6 billion in venture capital, accounting for nearly 30% of all venture capital activity in Canada. * Canada ranks third in the G7 in total funding per capita raised for AI companies, with more than 670 Canadian AI start-ups and 30 Canadian generative AI companies receiving at least one investment deal valued at more than US\$1 million since 2019.

Associated links

* What We Heard: Consultation on Artificial Intelligence (AI) Compute Compute") * Artificial intelligence ecosystem
* Canadian Artificial Intelligence Safety Institute * Voluntary Code of Conduct on the Responsible Development and Management of Advanced Generative AI Systems * Securing Canada's AI advantage

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