

Canada advances a sovereign AI data centre project with TELUS in British Columbia

Source copy kept by wheresthe.ai for the story "Canada advances a sovereign AI data centre project with TELUS in British Columbia" (<https://wheresthe.ai/d/ca-telus-sovereign-ai-data-centre-2026-05/>).

Source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2026/05/government-of-canada-and-telus-advance-work-to-build-sovereign-ai-infrastructure.html>

Text saved 19 Oct 2026 (the page text through a reader, because the site refused a direct fetch).

SHA-256 of the saved text: 61a98e1f6bcb595ecced05d1ba890fbfdd3a24c208f83bd83068895973c14094

[* Skip to main content](#) [* Skip to "About government"](#) [* Switch to basic HTML version](#)

Language selection

[* Français fr](#)

[/ Gouvernement du Canada](#)

Search

[Search Canada.ca](#)

[Search](#)

* * *

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

You are here:

1. Canada.ca

Government of Canada and TELUS advance work to build sovereign AI infrastructure

From: Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada

News release

This marks a significant step to bringing large-scale data centre capacity online

****This marks a significant step to bringing large-scale data centre capacity online****

****May 11, 2026**** – Vancouver, British Columbia

Globally, industry and government alike are moving quickly to bring large-scale data centre capacity online. Access to cutting-edge compute infrastructure is crucial for maintaining Canada's leadership in artificial intelligence (AI), empowering researchers and industries to thrive.

Today, the Honourable Evan Solomon, Minister of Artificial Intelligence and Digital Innovation and Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario, announced that the Government of Canada and TELUS are advancing work under the government's Enabling large-scale sovereign AI data centres initiative.

As part of this work, the proposed large-scale AI data centre project in British Columbia would increase Canada's sovereign compute capacity and support the broader domestic innovation ecosystem, including academia and industry.

In Budget 2025, the government indicated its intent to identify a limited number of large-scale sovereign commercial AI data centre projects and to engage with the most promising proposals through non-binding memoranda of understanding (MOU). The government will explore mechanisms that enable large-scale commercial AI data centres to be built in Canada. This will provide additional compute capacity for the broader domestic innovation ecosystem.

AI is creating major economic opportunities across the country. Building the compute infrastructure behind AI is critical to helping Canadian businesses adopt new technologies, increase productivity, create good jobs and drive long-term economic growth. Canada is well positioned to attract AI infrastructure investment due to its geography, climate, sustainable energy sources and extensive network infrastructure.

Quotes

> "Canada cannot compete in the AI economy without the infrastructure to back it up. By advancing this project with TELUS, we are taking concrete action to build sovereign AI capacity here in Canada, so Canadian innovators, researchers and businesses have access to the compute they need, while keeping Canadian data, intellectual property and economic advantage on Canadian soil." > – The Honourable Evan Solomon, Minister of Artificial Intelligence and Digital Innovation and Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario

> "We are incredibly proud to be working with the Government of Canada to help build Canada's sovereign AI infrastructure. The unprecedented demand that completely sold out our first AI factory in Rimouski proves that Canadian innovators want cutting-edge AI infrastructure built right here on Canadian soil. We are sending a clear message to the world: Canada will lead the AI revolution with uncompromising technological power and unparalleled climate leadership." > – Darren Entwistle, President and CEO of TELUS

Quick facts

* Budget 2025 provided a mandate to engage industry, identify promising AI infrastructure projects and negotiate MOUs with project proponents.

* The call for proposals on enabling large-scale sovereign AI data centres ran from January 15 to February 15, 2026.

* The Government of Canada is engaging with proponents of promising projects to explore collaborative opportunities in the future. No funding has yet been committed or distributed.

Associated links

* Enabling large-scale sovereign AI data centres * Canadian Sovereign AI Compute Strategy * Budget 2025

Contacts

Peter Wall Deputy Chief of Staff and Director of Communications Office of the Minister of Artificial Intelligence and Digital Innovation and Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario
peter.wall@ised-isde.gc.ca

Media Relations Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada media@ised-isde.gc.ca

Stay connected

Find more services and information on the Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada website.

Follow Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada on social media.

X (Twitter): @ISED_CA | Facebook: Canadian Innovation | Instagram: @cdninnovation | LinkedIn: Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada

For easy access to government programs for businesses, download the Canada Business app.

Search for related information by keyword: Economics and Industry | Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada | Canada | Business and industry | general public | news releases | Hon. Evan Solomon

Page details

2026-05-11

About this site

Government of Canada

* All contacts * Departments and agencies * About government

Themes and topics

* Jobs * Immigration and citizenship * Travel and tourism * Business * Benefits * Health * Taxes * Environment and natural resources * National security and defence * Culture, history and sport * Policing, justice and emergencies * Transport and infrastructure * Canada and the world * Money and finances * Science and innovation * Indigenous Peoples * Veterans and military * Youth * Manage life events

Government of Canada Corporate

* Social media * Mobile applications * About Canada.ca * Terms and conditions * Privacy