



Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada

Public Sector Innovation in Canada

The Impact and Innovation Unit
at the Privy Council Office

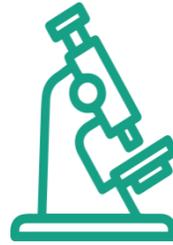


What is Innovation?



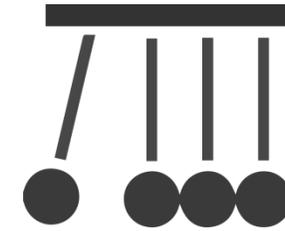
Innovation

Applying new insights, resources or approaches that can be demonstrated to improve outcomes for the public compared to the conventional ways of doing things



Experimentation

Testing new approaches to learn what works and what does not work using a rigorous, ethical, method/design and impact assessment



Impact

Executing on policy objectives designed to improve Canadians' quality of life and being able to demonstrate and measure their effects

The Diagnostic

Persistent Problems

Government spending and programs to address **persistent public policy challenges** are not keeping pace with constantly changing environment.

Inconsistent Measurement

Government programs face challenges in implementing standardized, **evidence-based** innovative and experimental **approaches at scale**.

Implementation Gap

Gap between policy development and program **implementation**.

Internal Barriers

Need to **overcome risk aversion** and organizational culture that can inhibit new approaches.

Capacity

Need to develop **modern skillsets** across government to ensure sufficient capacity to execute initiatives that will disrupt traditional ways of working.

Federal landscape that is enabling innovation

Ministerial Mandate Letters

GoC commitment to devote a **fixed percentage of program funds** to experimenting with new approaches and measuring impact.

Results and Delivery Agenda

Sustained attention on implementation and being purposeful about **measuring results** and tracking progress.

Social Financing Strategy/ Innovative procurement

New authorities and enhanced capabilities to pursue **outcomes-based approaches** to both grants and contributions funding as well as federal procurement.

Experimentation Guidance

Context and direction for Deputy Heads on how to **implement** the mandate **experimentation commitment**.

Deputy Ministers Task Force on Public Sector Innovation

Task Force of senior public servants focused on **government systems transformation** and the application of new technologies to improve practices and processes within departments.

Federal Provincial Territorial Declaration On Public Sector Innovation

To achieve meaningful and lasting results for the people we serve, governments need to work in new and inventive ways with a greater focus on what works and what doesn't. Innovation can do more than just drive strong economic growth. It has the potential to solve the big challenges that we face as Canadians.



The Impact Canada Initiative

Help us solve Canada's biggest challenges.

The Government of Canada wants innovative solutions to **economic, environmental, and social** problems.

CHALLENGE SPOTLIGHT



Smart Cities Challenge

INFRASTRUCTURE CANADA

2017-2018



Women in Cleantech Challenge

NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA

Have a cleantech idea?

- Announced in Budget 2017, the Impact Canada Initiative is part of a comprehensive set of initiatives launched by the Government of Canada aimed at **supporting innovation in the economy and in the public sector**
- Horizontal initiative that introduced a **unique governance structure and tailored innovative funding models** designed to help improve social, economic, and environmental outcomes in top-priority areas
- The Privy Council Office plays a unique role in supporting departments to **apply outcomes-based approaches** like prizes, social impact bonds, and behaviourally-informed interventions to solve policy challenges
- Emphasis on **co-designing** initiatives with stakeholders and citizens, and integrating **impact evaluation** methods

Current areas of focus

Smart Cities Challenge: Top-20 first round finalists were announced June 1, 2018 and grand prize winners will be selected in 2019 – awarding the best ideas from communities across Canada that improve the lives of their residents through **innovation, data and connected technology**

Clean Tech Impact: Implementing the Women in Clean Tech challenge launched and launching four new challenges throughout 2018 to find breakthrough **technology solutions to support clean growth** and the transition to a low-carbon economy

Responding to Canada's Opioid Crisis: Working with partner departments and stakeholders to accelerate action on innovative approaches to **harm reduction and treatment** (e.g. developing challenges to improve opioid testing technology for harm reduction and for real-time data collection, and developing impact bond concepts for treatment options)

Building Homes and Communities Innovation Challenge: Improving outcomes through the co-creation of new and meaningful partnership models with Indigenous communities and civil society to **address infrastructure issues** for Indigenous peoples

Current areas of focus (2)

Whale Innovation Challenge: In partnership with Nesta, a challenge is being designed to accelerate the development of technologies and innovative solutions to **facilitate the real-time detection and location of whales** (i.e. to help protect endangered species like the North Atlantic Right Whale and Southern Resident Killer Whales in Canadian waters)

Improving Canada Learning Bond Outcomes: Using experimental approaches and exploring FinTech solutions informed by behavioural insights to boost uptake for and access to the Canada Learning Bond – a grant designed to **help lower-income families save for post-secondary education** (e.g. college, university, apprenticeships)

Increasing Recruitment of Women into the Canadian Armed Forces: Applying behavioural approaches in online marketing trials to test targeted messaging aimed at generating **interest in Canadian Armed Forces careers among women aged 18 to 34**

Deputy Ministers Task Force on Public Sector Innovation: Launching signature projects in 2018 focused on **applying new technologies in government departments** – like integrating AI to improve select government processes

CONNECT WITH US

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